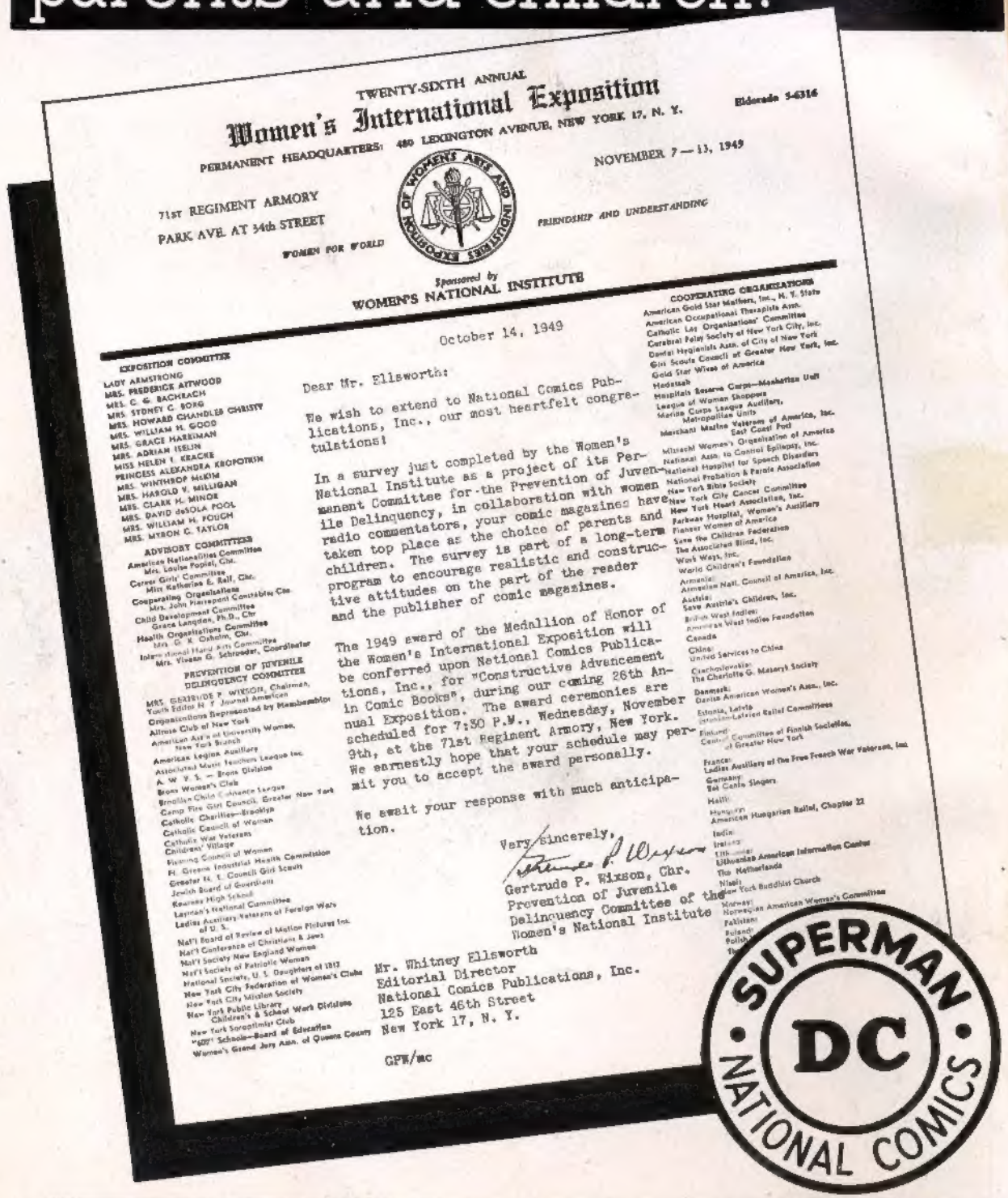
SUPERMAN · NATIONAL COMICS · DC
52 BIG PAGES
BAT MAN
10c
NO. 57
FEB.-MAR.
SPECIAL!
YOUR OWN
GIANT 1950
BATMAN and ROBIN
PIN-UP CALENDAR
INSIDE!

NATIONAL COMICS takes "top place as the choice of parents and children."



TWENTY-SIXTH ANNUAL

Women's International Exposition

PERMANENT HEADQUARTERS: 480 LEXINGTON AVENUE, NEW YORK 17, N. Y. Eldorado 5-6316

71st REGIMENT ARMORY
PARK AVE. AT 34th STREET

NOVEMBER 7 — 13, 1949

WOMEN FOR WORLD FRIENDSHIP AND UNDERSTANDING

Sponsored by
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October 14, 1949

Dear Mr. Ellsworth:

We wish to extend to National Comics Publications, Inc., our most heartfelt congratulations!

In a survey just completed by the Women's National Institute as a project of its Permanent Committee for the Prevention of Juvenile Delinquency, in collaboration with women radio commentators, your comic magazines have taken top place as the choice of parents and children. The survey is part of a long-term program to encourage realistic and constructive attitudes on the part of the reader and the publisher of comic magazines.

The 1949 award of the Medallion of Honor of the Women's International Exposition will be conferred upon National Comics Publications, Inc., for "Constructive Advancement in Comic Books", during our coming 26th Annual Exposition. The award ceremonies are scheduled for 7:30 P.M., Wednesday, November 9th, at the 71st Regiment Armory, New York. We earnestly hope that your schedule may permit you to accept the award personally.

We await your response with much anticipation.

Very sincerely,

Gertrude P. Wixson, Chr.
Prevention of Juvenile
Delinquency Committee of the
Women's National Institute

Mr. Whitney Ellsworth
Editorial Director
National Comics Publications, Inc.
125 East 46th Street
New York 17, N. Y.

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Norwegian American Women's Committee
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Poland:
Polish

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Printed in U.S.A.

BAT MAN
WITH
ROBIN
THE BOY WONDER -
IT IS THE PURPOSE OF THIS COURT TO PROVE WHETHER OR NOT BRUCE WAYNE IS A FIT GUARDIAN FOR HIS YOUNG WARD! IF ANYONE HERE CAN SHOW GOOD CAUSE WHY BRUCE WAYNE SHOULD NOT LOSE THE CUSTODY OF DICK GRAYSON... LET HIM SPEAK NOW, FOR WE ARE NOW ABOUT TO BEGIN "THE TRIAL OF BRUCE WAYNE!"
BOB KANE

IN GOTHAM CITY, A CIVIL TRIAL IS ABOUT TO BEGIN AS THE PROSECUTING ATTORNEY MAKES A DRAMATIC ANNOUNCEMENT...
YOUR HONOR... LADIES AND GENTLEMEN OF THE JURY... IT IS MY DUTY TO PROVE THAT BRUCE WAYNE IS NOT A FIT PERSON TO BE GUARDIAN TO HIS YOUNG WARD, DICK GRAYSON!

I WILL SHOW THAT THIS SOCIETY PLAYBOY IS OF BAD MORAL CHARACTER... THAT HE HAS A SORDID REPUTATION... IS IRRESPONSIBLE... AND A BAD INFLUENCE!

BRUCE WAYNE NOT A FIT GUARDIAN!

BUT CERTAINLY WAYNE, WHOSE SECRET IDENTITY IS **BATMAN**, MUST BE A MAN OF INTEGRITY! THEN WHAT'S ALL THIS ABOUT? LET'S LOOK AT THE EVIDENCE.....

"FIRST WITNESS FOR THE PROSECUTION... MISS PEGGY CARLIN..."
MISS CARLIN, YOU ARE EMPLOYED AS PHOTOGRAPHER IN THE NIGHT SPOT! TELL US WHAT YOU SAW ON THE NIGHT OF JUNE FIFTH!
WELL... I MADE THE ROUNDS OF THE TABLES, AND FINALLY WAS ABOUT TO PHOTOGRAPH A WEDDING PARTY...

"JUST AS I CLICKED THE SHUTTER, I HEARD A BIG ROW IN THE NIGHT SPOT'S ENTRANCE HALL! I SAW BRUCE WAYNE FIGHTING WITH SOME BIG BRUISER..."
JUST 'CAUSE YOU'RE A SOCIETY GUY DON'T GIVE YOU THE RIGHT TO MAKE A PLAY FER MY GIRL FRIEND!

"EDDIE, THE BOUNCER, STEPPED IN AND TOSSED WAYNE OUT OF THE CLUB..."
Night Spot
OUT, WAYNE! WE DON'T NEED YOU AS A PATRON! YOU CAUSE TOO MUCH TROUBLE!

THANK YOU, MISS CARLIN! YOUR TESTIMONY DOES MUCH TO SHOW THE TRUE CHARACTER OF THIS NIGHTCLUB NE'ER-DO-WELL WHO MASQUERADES AS A RESPECTABLE FOSTER PARENT!

"IN HIS DEFENSE, BRUCE WAYNE TELLS HIS VERSON TO A CYNICAL JURY..."
MR. WAYNE, YOU SAY YOU RECEIVED AN ANONYMOUS PHONE CALL THAT NIGHT?
YES! MY CALLER WANTED ME TO MEET HIM THERE! HE SAID IT WAS IMPORTANT... SO I WENT!

AS I ENTERED THE NIGHTCLUB, A HUGE FIST SLAMMED MY JAW!--I DIDN'T SEE THE MAN WHO HIT ME... I WAS SO DAZED BY THE ATTACK!
MR. WAYNE... WE, TOO, ARE DAZED... BY YOUR UNBELIEVABLE STORY!

LATER THAT NIGHT, AFTER RECESS, BRUCE AND DICK ARE UNDERSTANDABLY WORRIED...
IT LOOKS BAD, DICK... VERY BAD! THEY COULD TAKE YOU AWAY FROM ME!
THEY CAN'T! THEY DON'T KNOW WHAT IT MEANS TO BREAK US UP! YOU'RE LIKE A FATHER TO ME!

IT WOULD MEAN THE END OF BATMAN AND ROBIN AS A TEAM! YOU COULDN'T SNEAK OUT OF THE ORPHANAGE EVERY NIGHT TO GO CRIME-FIGHTING WITH ME!
GOSH! YOU'RE RIGHT! WHAT CAN WE DO?

SOMEBODY'S FRAMING YOU, BUT WHO? WHO HATES YOU THAT MUCH?
I THINK IT'S TIME BATMAN HELPED BRUCE WAYNE SOLVE A MYSTERY! EDDIE, THE BOUNCER, MIGHT'VE SEEN THE FACE OF THE MAN WHO SLUGGED ME!

BUT THE NIGHT CLUB OWNER HAS BAD NEWS...

EDDIE? HE QUIT! SOME RICH AUNT LEFT HIM SOME MONEY!--I DON'T KNOW WHERE HE IS NOW!

STRANGE HE SHOULD INHERIT MONEY RIGHT AFTER WAYNE WAS FRAMED! I WONDER IF HE WAS *PAID* TO BOUNCE WAYNE FOR A FIGHT HE DIDN'T START!

BUT I WOULD'VE FIRED HIM ANYWAY..FOR BOUNCING MR. WAYNE! AFTER ALL, I'M IN BUSINESS...AND WAYNE'S A RICH CUSTOMER! YOU GET THE PICTURE...

SURE...I UNDERSTAND! *PICTURE!* THAT REMINDS ME...PEGGY CARLIN'S... THE CLUB'S PHOTOGRAPHER!

SOON...

YOU WERE PHOTOGRAPHING SOME DINERS JUST AS THE FIGHT STARTED! MAYBE THE FIGHT IS IN THE THE PHOTOGRAPH'S BACKGROUND!

IT SURE IS! I'LL GET YOU THE NEGATIVE!

NEGATIVES

LATER...IN THE *BATCAVE*, *BATMAN* MAKES AN ENLARGEMENT OF A PORTION OF THE NEGATIVE...

SO THAT'S THE FELLOW WHO POKED ME!

HIS FACE LOOKS FAMILIAR! MAYBE HE'S IN OUR CRIME FILE!

AND SO HE IS...

WILLIAM GRIMES

ALIAS "HIPPO" GRIMES

HEIGHT	6 FT. 4 IN.
WEIGHT	265 LBS.

5 YEARS...ARMED ASSAULT

USUALLY WORKS AS CARNIVAL STRONG MAN. APPROACH WITH CAUTION. THIS MAN IS DANGEROUS

A CIRCUS STRONG MAN! NO WONDER HE PARALYSED YOU WITH A SURPRISE PUNCH!

STILL LATER...IN THE EMPTY CARNIVAL GROUNDS...

THAT'S HIM! STILL WORKING THE CARNIVALS! LET'S GET HIM!

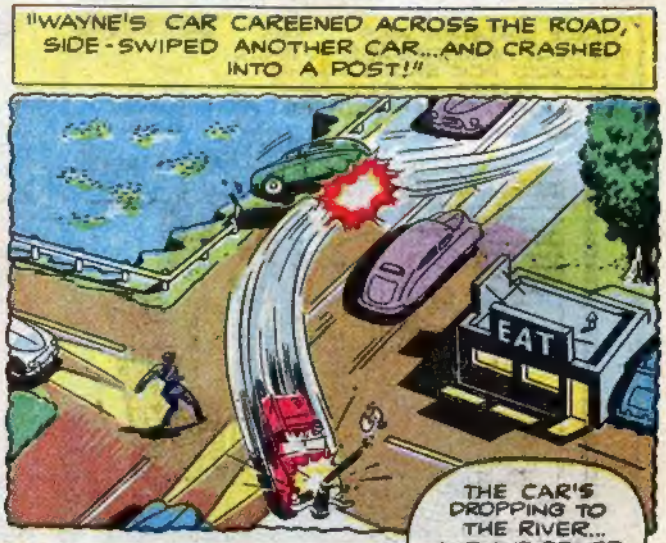
YOU STAY OUT OF THIS, *ROBIN*...I'VE GOT A *PERSONAL* SCORE TO SETTLE WITH THAT MUSCLE MAN!

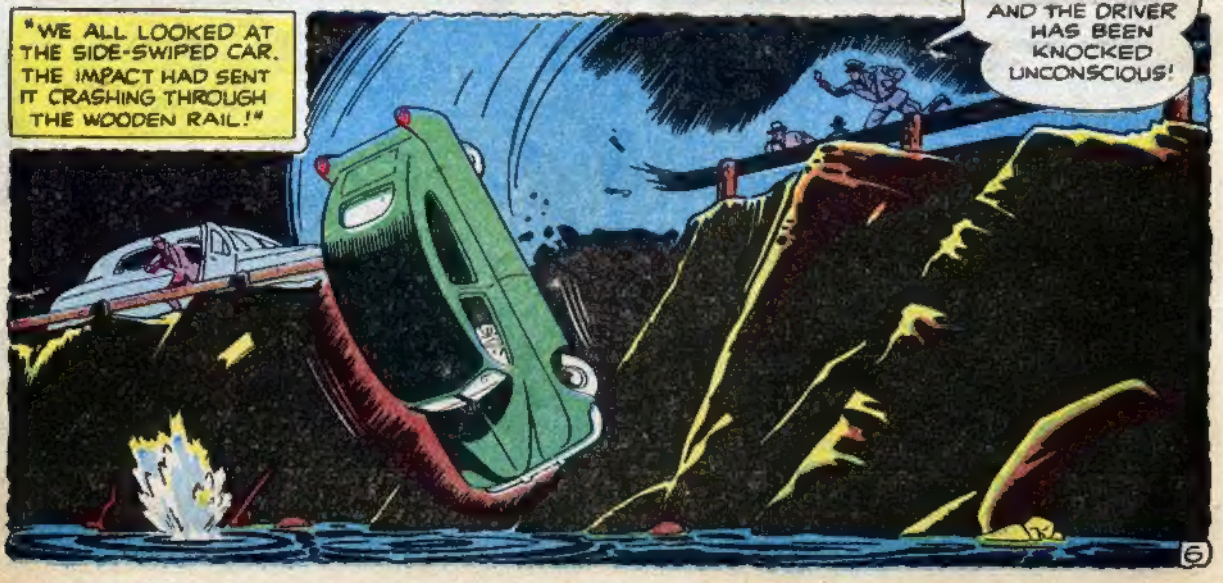
BETTER START EXERCISING YOUR THROAT MUSCLES, INSTEAD, HIPPO! YOU'RE GOING TO TALK ABOUT THE BRUCE WAYNE FRAME!
BATMAN! TRY AN' MAKE ME TALK! I KIN BEND YOU AS EASY AS I BEND THIS BAR!
BATMAN TAKES THAT VERY SAME BAR. HIS MUSCLES WRITHE LIKE SNAKES...UNDER THAT INEXORABLE PRESSURE... THE BAR STRAIGHTENS OUT!
YOU'LL TALK, HIPPO!
ABRUPTLY, THE GIANT LASHES OUT, BUT BATMAN ONLY GRINS, SHAKING OFF THE BLOW...
DROP... BLAST YA!
NOT THIS TIME, HIPPO! THIS TIME I'M READY FOR YOU!
THERE IS A GLIMMER OF FEAR IN HIPPO'S EYES AS THE BATMAN'S IRON FISTS FLAIL LIKE SLEDGE-HAMMERS...
ADMIT IT... YOU WERE PAID TO START THAT BRAWL WITH WAYNE...
I QUIT... YEAH... I ADMIT IT!
I NEVER SAW THE GUY'S FACE! HE WAS WEARIN' A MASK! HE TALKED KIND O' FUNNY...
HOW DID HE TALK? WHAT WERE HIS EXACT WORDS?
HE SAID "I WANT YOU TO DELIVER A BOX-OFFICE PERFORMANCE! MAKE WAYNE LOOK LIKE A FLOPEROO! I WANT IT TO GET A BIG BALLYHOO IN THE DAILIES!"

SUDDENLY, BEFORE THE CRIME-BUSTERS CAN PUZZLE THAT OUT, THEY ARE FELLED BY A HEAVY TENT STAKE!
YOU'RE ON THE SKIDS, SNOOPERS!

LATER...
HIPPO'S GONE, NATURALLY! OOOH! MY HEAD FEELS LIKE A BALLOON ABOUT TO TAKE OFF!
MINE'S ALREADY SAILING THE STRATOSPHERE! WELL... IT'S OBVIOUS HIPPO'S PAYOFF MAN DIDN'T WANT HIM TALKING. NOW WHAT?

NEXT DAY... THE PROSECUTING ATTORNEY AGAIN PRESENTS NEW EVIDENCE AGAINST BRUCE WAYNE...
OFFICER CLANCY, PLEASE TELL WHAT YOU SAW WHILE DIRECTING TRAFFIC ONE NIGHT AT MADISON AND ESSEX STREETS!
I SAW A CAR WEAVING RECKLESSLY IN AND OUT OF TRAFFIC! BRUCE WAYNE AT THE WHEEL!


"WAYNE'S CAR CAREENED ACROSS THE ROAD, SIDE-SWIPED ANOTHER CAR... AND CRASHED INTO A POST!"
EAT
THE CAR'S DROPPING TO THE RIVER... AND THE DRIVER HAS BEEN KNOCKED UNCONSCIOUS!


"WE ALL LOOKED AT THE SIDE-SWIPED CAR. THE IMPACT HAD SENT IT CRASHING THROUGH THE WOODEN RAIL!"

"SUDDENLY BATMAN APPEARED! I GUESS HE WAS CRUISING BY AT THAT MOMENT! HE BEAT ME TO THE DRIVER!"

KEEP YOUR JACKET ON, OFFICER— I'LL BRING HIM UP!

"BATMAN HAD A TOUGH TIME GETTING THE DRIVER LOOSE, BUT HE FINALLY DID IT—"

WHILE BATMAN WAS GIVING THE MAN ARTIFICIAL RESPIRATION, I LOOKED FOR BRUCE WAYNE! BUT I GUESS HE RAN AWAY TO AVOID ARREST, BECAUSE HE WAS GONE!

THE ACT OF A GUILTY MAN!

I HAD TO DISAPPEAR TO SWITCH TO BATMAN! NOBODY SAW ME DO IT BECAUSE THE LAMP LIGHT WAS SHATTERED!

BUT YOU CAN'T TELL THEM THAT WITHOUT REVEALING YOUR SECRET IDENTITY— WHAT A SPOT!

WHEN WAYNE OFFERS HIS DEFENSE TESTIMONY...

SOMEONE LOOSENED THE STEERING KNUCKLE ON THE WHEEL! I COULDN'T STEER MY CAR!

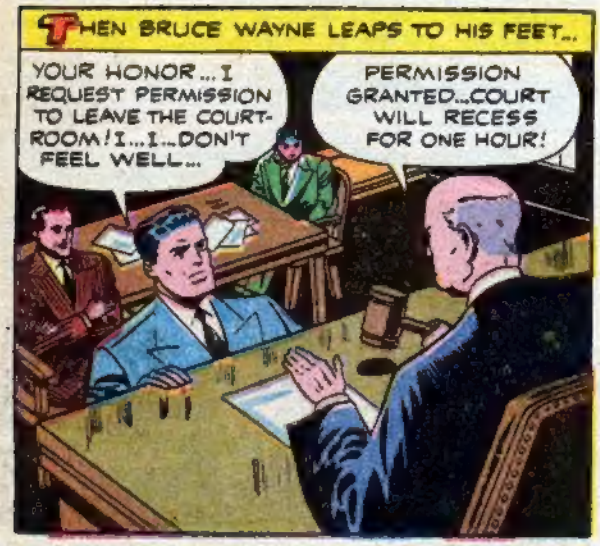
THE CRASH LOOSENED THE WHEEL! --YOU'RE USING THAT AS AN EXCUSE TO COVER UP YOUR RECKLESS DRIVING! BUT FOR BATMAN'S TIMELY RESCUE— YOU'D HAVE KILLED SOMEONE!

THEN, MORE WITNESSES OFFER DAMAGING TESTIMONY—

BRUCE WAYNE ALMOST RAN ME DOWN WITH HIS CAR!

I'M A SALESMAN! WHEN I TRIED TO SELL WAYNE MY PRODUCTS, HE TRIED TO BEAT ME AND THREW ME OUT OF HIS HOUSE! THE MAN'S CRAZY!

WAYNE RAN UP A BIG BILL AT MY SMALL RESTAURANT! I'M A POOR MAN! I NEED MONEY— BUT WAYNE REFUSES TO PAY HIS BILL!


THEN BRUCE WAYNE LEAPS TO HIS FEET...
YOUR HONOR...I REQUEST PERMISSION TO LEAVE THE COURT-ROOM! I...I...DON'T FEEL WELL...
PERMISSION GRANTED...COURT WILL RECESS FOR ONE HOUR!

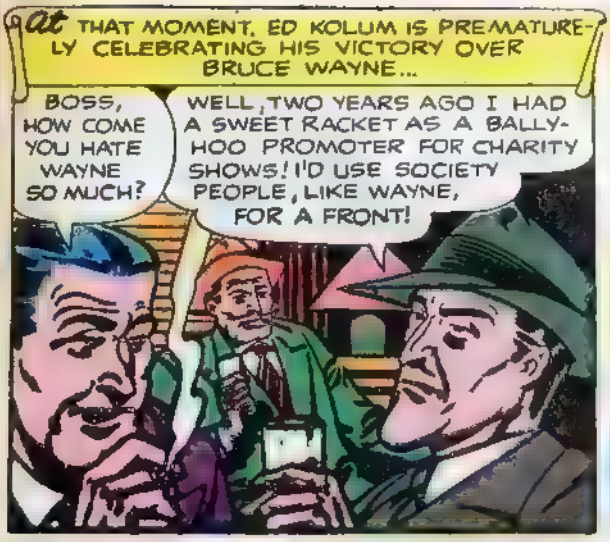
AS BRUCE LEAVES, HE IS THE OBJECT OF UNFRIENDLY EYES...
HE DOESN'T FEEL WELL, HE SAYS! HE CAN'T FACE THE WITNESSES!
THE MAN'S A MORAL COWARD!
THAT POOR BOY, HAVING TO LIVE WITH A MAN LIKE WAYNE!

BUT OUTSIDE THE COURTHOUSE...
WHAT'S THE IDEA OF LEAVING, BRUCE?
I NEEDED AN EXCUSE TO GET AWAY SO WE CAN FOLLOW UP A CLUE! REMEMBER THE WORDS HIPPO SAID WERE SPOKEN BY THE MASKED MAN?

HE SAID, "I WANT YOU TO DELIVER A BOX OFFICE PERFORMANCE! MAKE WAYNE LOOK LIKE A FLOPEROO! I WANT IT TO GET A BIG BALLYHOO IN THE DAILIES."
TRANSLATION..."I WANT YOU TO PUT ON A FINE ACT! MAKE WAYNE LOOK BAD! I WANT IT TO GET A LOT OF PUBLICITY IN THE NEWSPAPERS!"

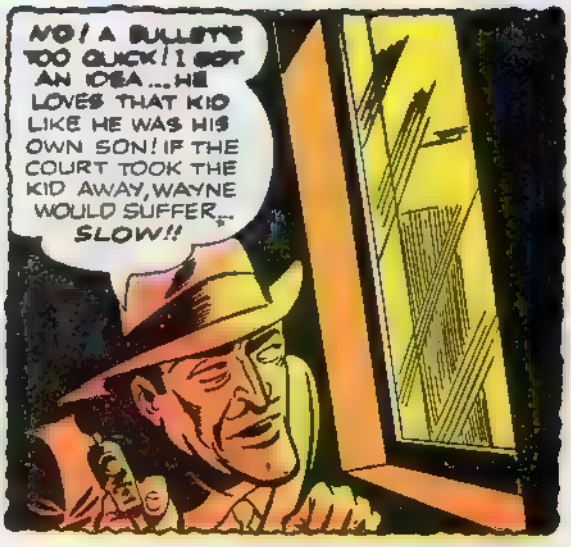
THE MASKED MAN SPOKE SLANG USED BY PEOPLE IN SHOW BUSINESS!
ESPECIALLY PEOPLE WHO WRITE ABOUT SHOW BUSINESS...LIKE PRESS AGENTS! THAT'S IT! A PRESS AGENT WHO PROMOTED CHARITY SHOWS...ED KOLUM!

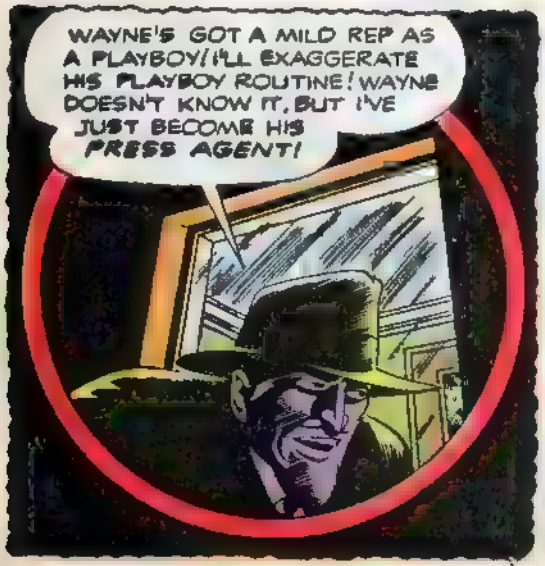
KOLUM ALWAYS SPOKE BROADWAY SLANG WHEN HE GOT EXCITED! AND HE CERTAINLY HATES ME ENOUGH!
I WONDER WHERE HE'S HIDING OUT?


AT THAT MOMENT, ED KOLUM IS PREMATURELY CELEBRATING HIS VICTORY OVER BRUCE WAYNE...
BOSS, HOW COME YOU HATE WAYNE SO MUCH?
WELL, TWO YEARS AGO I HAD A SWEET RACKET AS A BALLYHOO PROMOTER FOR CHARITY SHOWS! I'D USE SOCIETY PEOPLE, LIKE WAYNE, FOR A FRONT!

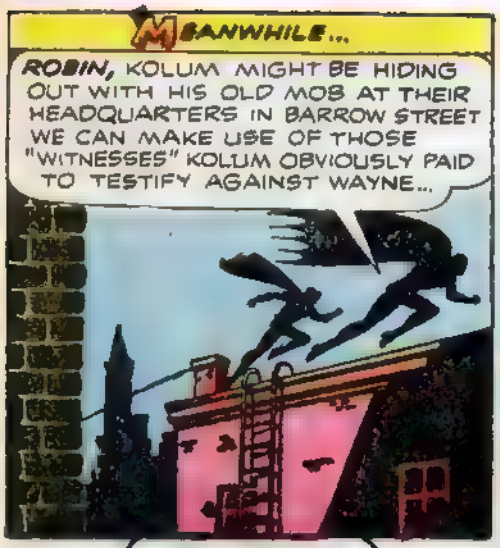
"BUT WAYNE GOT WISE I WAS RUNNING A CHARITY SWINDLE..."
OFFICER, ARREST THAT MAN! KOLUM, I'VE BEEN CHECKING UP ON YOU! YOU'VE FALSIFIED ACCOUNTS AND STOLEN FUNDS! YOU'RE FINISHED!
BUT I AIN'T FINISHED WITH YOU!

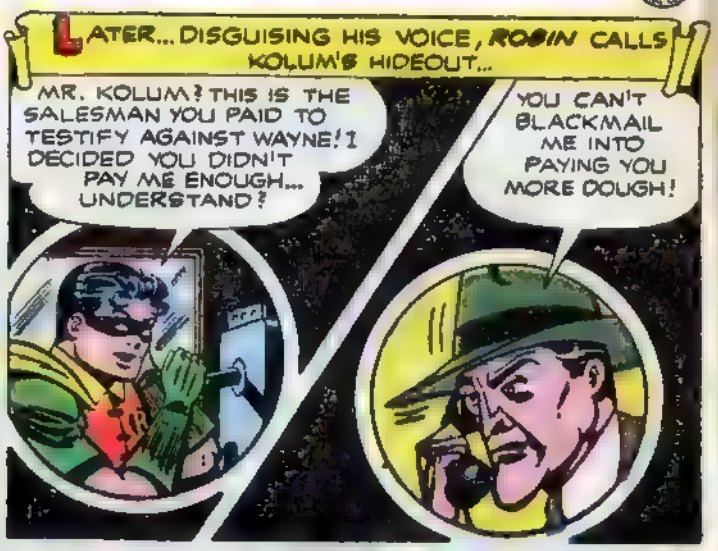
"AFTER I WAS RELEASED FROM THE BIG CAGE, I LOOKED UP WAYNE..."
ALL NICE AND COZY... HUM AND THAT ADOPTED KID! ONE BULLET WILL BREAK UP THAT HAPPY COMBO!


NO! A BULLET'S TOO QUICK! I GOT AN IDEA ...HE LOVES THAT KID LIKE HE WAS HIS OWN SON! IF THE COURT TOOK THE KID AWAY, WAYNE WOULD SUFFER... SLOW!!

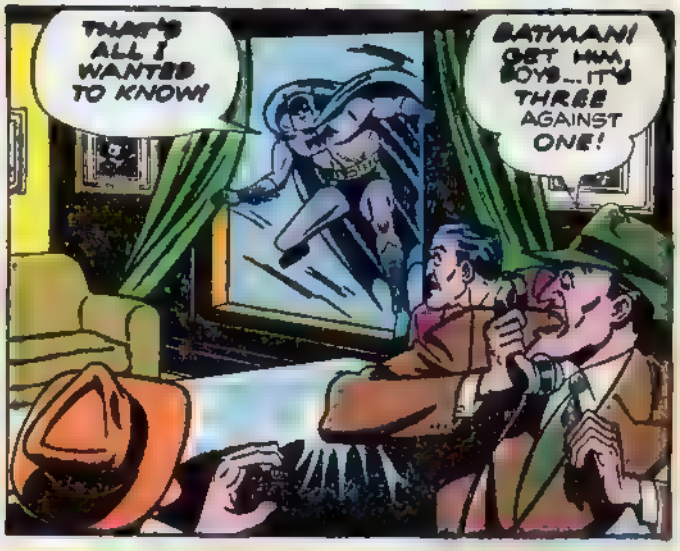

WAYNE'S GOT A MILD REP AS A PLAYBOY! I'LL EXAGGERATE HIS PLAYBOY ROUTINE! WAYNE DOESN'T KNOW IT, BUT I'VE JUST BECOME HIS PRESS AGENT!

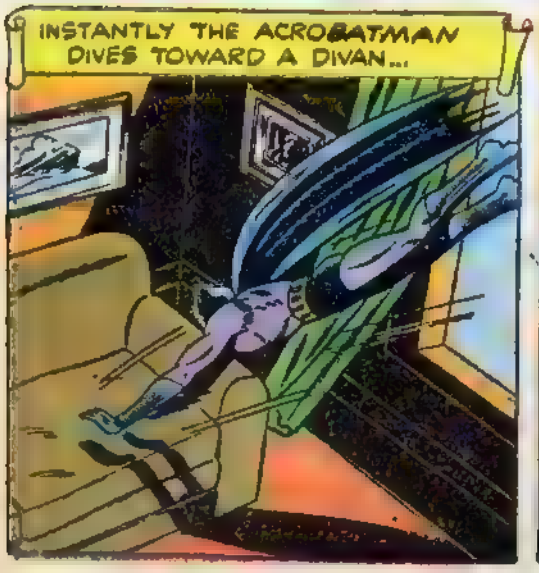
SO YA FRAMED WAYNE, HUH, KOLUM?
YES... I BRIBED THAT WOMAN, THAT SALESMAN AND THAT RESTAURANT OWNER TO GIVE FALSE TESTIMONY! I LOOSENED THAT STEERING WHEEL! AND I STAGED THAT NIGHTCLUB BRAWL! YEAH... I'VE PRACTICALLY GOT DICK GRAYSON BALLYHOOED INTO AN ORPHANAGE!

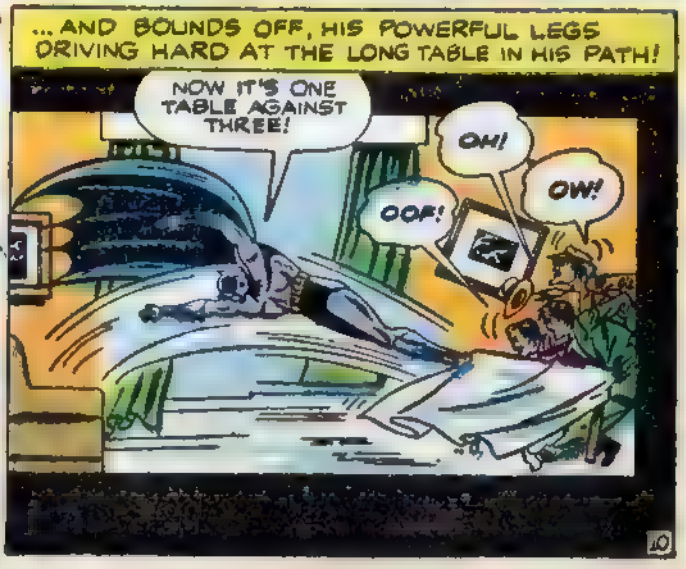

MEANWHILE...
ROBIN, KOLUM MIGHT BE HIDING OUT WITH HIS OLD MOB AT THEIR HEADQUARTERS IN BARROW STREET WE CAN MAKE USE OF THOSE "WITNESSES" KOLUM OBVIOUSLY PAID TO TESTIFY AGAINST WAYNE...

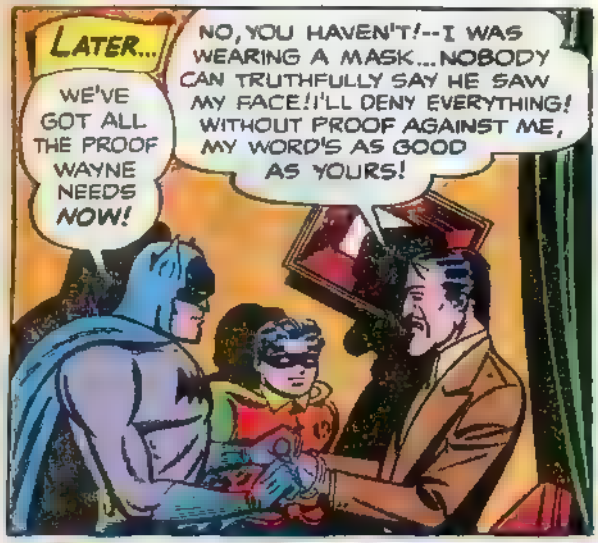

LATER... DISGUISING HIS VOICE, ROBIN CALLS KOLUM'S HIDEOUT...
MR. KOLUM? THIS IS THE SALESMAN YOU PAID TO TESTIFY AGAINST WAYNE! I DECIDED YOU DIDN'T PAY ME ENOUGH... UNDERSTAND?
YOU CAN'T BLACKMAIL ME INTO PAYING YOU MORE DOUGH!

BAAH... HOW'D YOU FIND OUT I PAID YOU? I WAS WEARING A MASK!

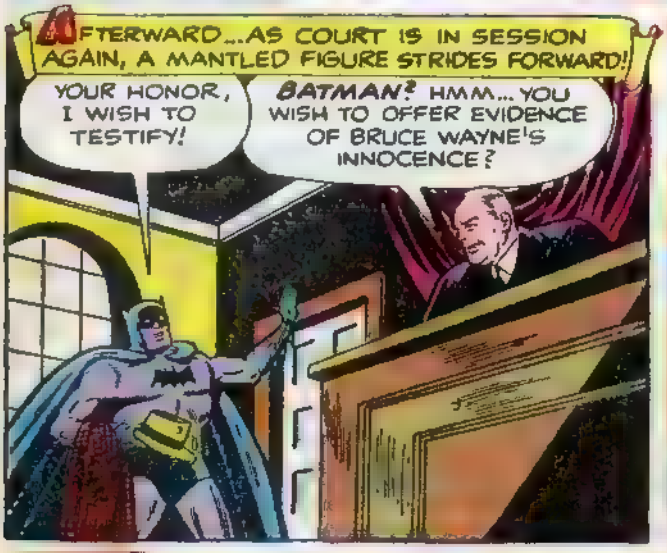

THAT'S ALL I WANTED TO KNOW!
BATMAN! GET HIM, BOYS... IT'S THREE AGAINST ONE!


INSTANTLY THE ACROBATMAN DIVES TOWARD A DIVAN...

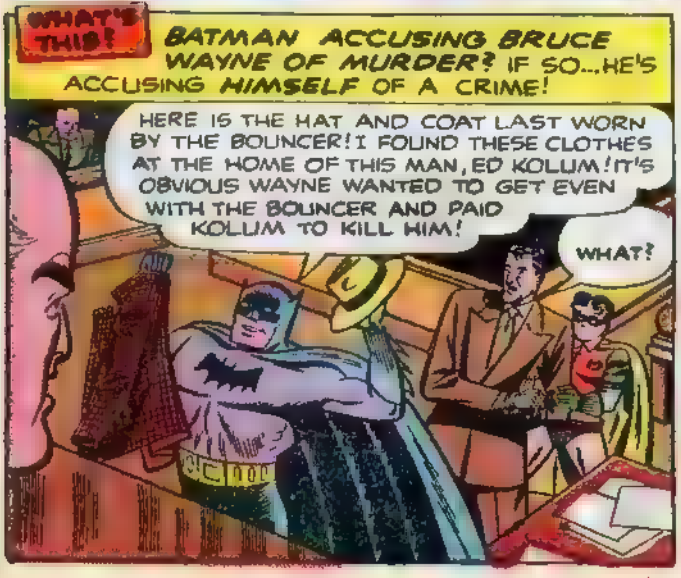

...AND BOUNDS OFF, HIS POWERFUL LEGS DRIVING HARD AT THE LONG TABLE IN HIS PATH!
NOW IT'S ONE TABLE AGAINST THREE!
OH!
OW!
OOF!


LATER...
WE'VE GOT ALL THE PROOF WAYNE NEEDS NOW!
NO, YOU HAVEN'T!--I WAS WEARING A MASK...NOBODY CAN TRUTHFULLY SAY HE SAW MY FACE! I'LL DENY EVERYTHING! WITHOUT PROOF AGAINST ME, MY WORD'S AS GOOD AS YOURS!

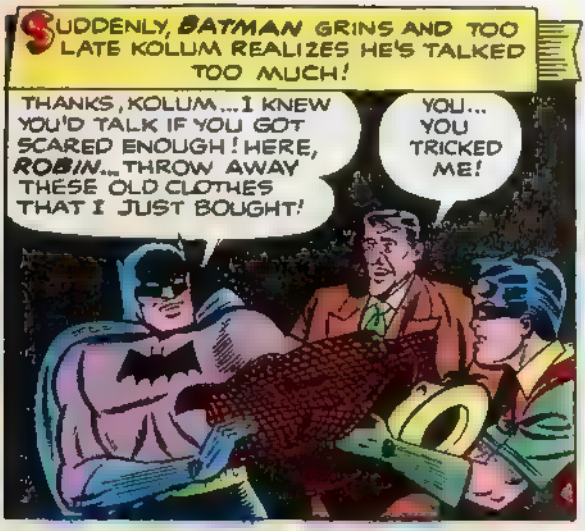
A CONFERENCE IS QUICKLY HELD...
HE'S GOT US STYMIED!
ONLY TEMPORARILY! I'VE GOT ANOTHER IDEA! YOU TAKE KOLUM TO THE COURT.. I'LL MEET YOU THERE IN A FEW MINUTES...

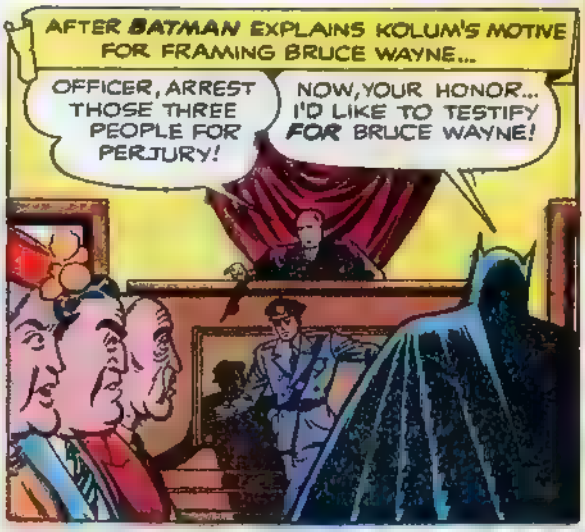

AFTERWARD...AS COURT IS IN SESSION AGAIN, A MANTLED FIGURE STRIDES FORWARD!
YOUR HONOR, I WISH TO TESTIFY!
BATMAN? HMM... YOU WISH TO OFFER EVIDENCE OF BRUCE WAYNE'S INNOCENCE?

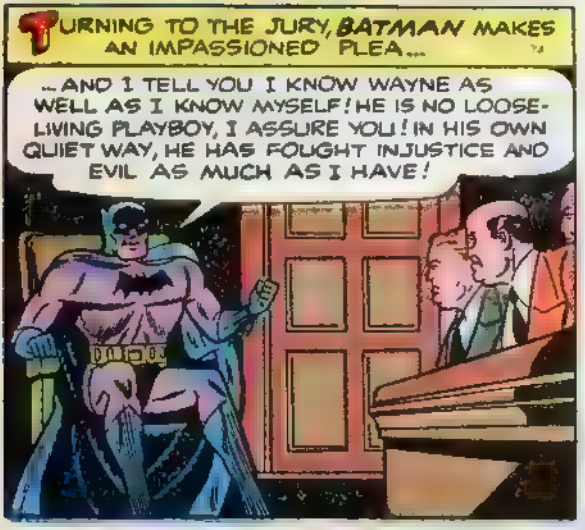
NO! I WISH TO TESTIFY AGAINST BRUCE WAYNE! I ACCUSE BRUCE WAYNE OF THE REVENGE MURDER OF HAGEN, THE NIGHT SPOT BOUNCER!


WHAT'S THIS!
BATMAN ACCUSING BRUCE WAYNE OF MURDER? IF SO...HE'S ACCUSING HIMSELF OF A CRIME!
HERE IS THE HAT AND COAT LAST WORN BY THE BOUNCER! I FOUND THESE CLOTHES AT THE HOME OF THIS MAN, ED KOLUM! IT'S OBVIOUS WAYNE WANTED TO GET EVEN WITH THE BOUNCER AND PAID KOLUM TO KILL HIM!
WHAT?

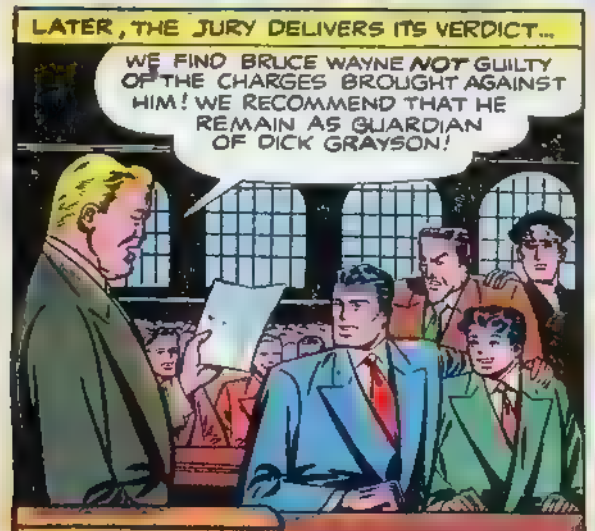
YOUR HONOR, BATMAN'S TRYING TO FRAME ME INTO A MURDER RAP! THE BOUNCER IS ALIVE! I PAID HIM MONEY TO LEAVE TOWN... JUST LIKE I PAID HIPPO!


SUDDENLY, BATMAN GRINS AND TOO LATE KOLLUM REALIZES HE'S TALKED TOO MUCH!
THANKS, KOLLUM ...I KNEW YOU'D TALK IF YOU GOT SCARED ENOUGH! HERE, ROBIN... THROW AWAY THESE OLD CLOTHES THAT I JUST BOUGHT!
YOU... YOU TRICKED ME!


AFTER BATMAN EXPLAINS KOLUM'S MOTIVE FOR FRAMING BRUCE WAYNE...
OFFICER, ARREST THOSE THREE PEOPLE FOR PERJURY!
NOW, YOUR HONOR... I'D LIKE TO TESTIFY FOR BRUCE WAYNE!


TURNING TO THE JURY, BATMAN MAKES AN IMPASSIONED PLEA...
...AND I TELL YOU I KNOW WAYNE AS WELL AS I KNOW MYSELF! HE IS NO LOOSE-LIVING PLAYBOY, I ASSURE YOU! IN HIS OWN QUIET WAY, HE HAS FOUGHT INJUSTICE AND EVIL AS MUCH AS I HAVE!

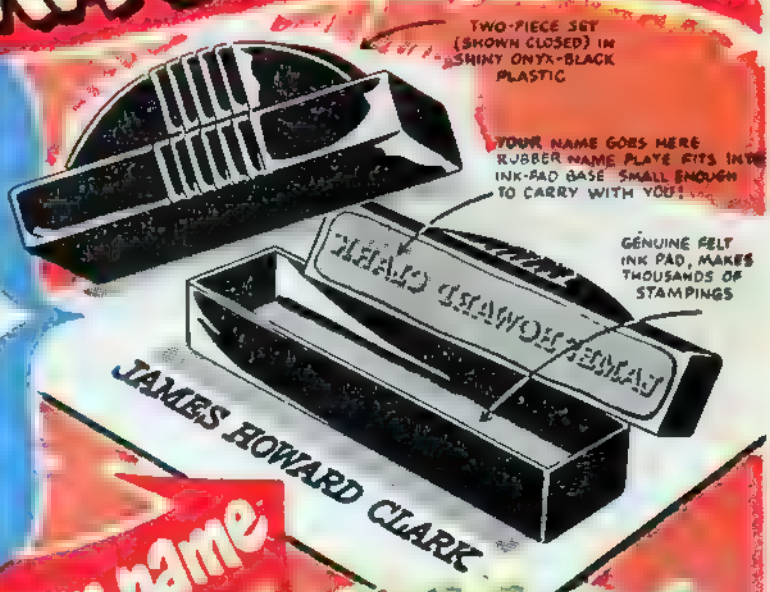
POLICE COMMISSIONER GORDON AND OTHER RESPONSIBLE PEOPLE COULD TELL YOU OF BRUCE WAYNE'S MANY CHARITIES! THEY KNOW WAYNE'S CHARACTER... AND NOW YOU KNOW IT, TOO!


LATER, THE JURY DELIVERS ITS VERDICT...
WE FIND BRUCE WAYNE NOT GUILTY OF THE CHARGES BROUGHT AGAINST HIM! WE RECOMMEND THAT HE REMAIN AS GUARDIAN OF DICK GRAYSON!

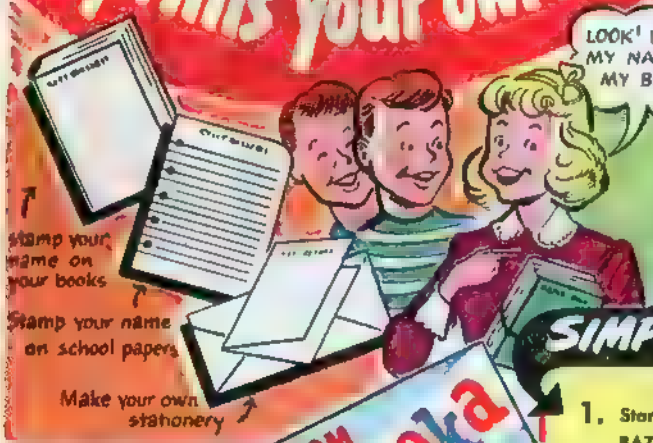
THAT NIGHT...THERE IS A PRIVATE CELEBRATION IN THE WAYNE HOME...
LET'S RAISE OUR GLASSES OF MILK, DICK... AND DRINK A TOAST TO OUR GUEST OF HONOR... BATMAN...WHO SOLVED A MYSTERY FOR BRUCE WAYNE AND DICK GRAYSON!
12
THE END.

NOW! Another BAZOOKA BONANZA!

10,000 Personal Name Stamps Given Away to 10,000 Boys & Girls Sending in 100 Penny Bazooka Wrappers! Get Yours While They Last!

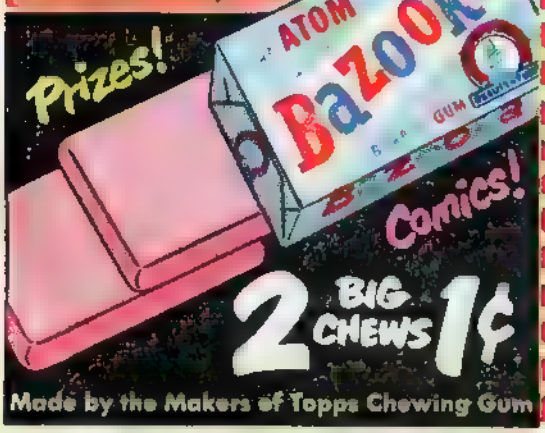

TWO-PIECE SET (SHOWN CLOSED) IN SHINY ONYX-BLACK PLASTIC
YOUR NAME GOES HERE RUBBER NAME PLATE FITS INTO INK-PAD BASE SMALL ENOUGH TO CARRY WITH YOU!
GENUINE FELT INK PAD, MAKES THOUSANDS OF STAMPINGS
JAMES HOWARD CLARK

It prints your own name


LOOK! I'VE STAMPED MY NAME ON ALL MY BOOKS!
Stamp your name on your books
Stamp your name on school papers
Make your own stationery

SEND NO MONEY... WRITE NO LETTERS...

START COLLECTING PENNY BAZOOKA WRAPPERS NOW AND WIN YOUR STAMP!!



SIMPLE MAILING DIRECTIONS

1. Start today to save the wrappers from delicious PENNY BAZOOKA Bubble Gum. All BAZOOKA wrappers are good for this NAME STAMP OFFER.
2. When you have collected one hundred (100) of these red, white and blue silver foil wrappers, put them in an envelope with your name and address on a slip of paper.
3. Mail to BAZOOKA, Dept R- Box 20, Madison Square Station, New York 10, N. Y. 10,000 entries received will win a PERSONAL NAME STAMP
4. Entries must be postmarked not later than midnight, March 15, 1950, to qualify.
5. Offer open to all residents of the U. S., its territories and possessions, except employees and their families of Topps Chewing Gum and its advertising agency.

SUPERMAN
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NATIONAL COMICS
Look Who's Here!
BOB HOPE
IN HIS OWN COMICS MAGAZINE!
52 BIG LAUGH-LOADED PAGES — STARRING AMERICA'S FAVORITE FUNNY-MAN!
JUST THE SORT OF HILARIOUS BRAND-NEW STORIES THAT'LL MAKE YOU HOWL WITH HOPE!
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ON SALE Everywhere NOV. 25th
THE ADVENTURES OF
BOB HOPE
52 BIG PAGES

STATEMENT OF THE OWNERSHIP, MANAGEMENT, CIRCULATION, ETC., REQUIRED BY THE ACT OF CONGRESS OF AUGUST 24, 1912, AS AMENDED BY THE ACTS OF MARCH 3, 1933, AND JULY 2, 1946

Of BATMAN, published bi-monthly at New York N Y for October 1 1949

State of New York }
County of New York } ss

Before me, a Notary Public in and for the State and county aforesaid, personally appeared J S Liebowitz, who, having been duly sworn according to law, deposes and says that he is the Business Manager of the BATMAN and that the following is, to the best of his knowledge and belief, a true statement of the ownership, management (and if a daily paper, the circulation), etc of the aforesaid publication for the date shown in the above caption required by the Act of August 24 1912, as amended by the Acts of March 3, 1933 and July 2, 1946 (section 537, Postal Laws and Regulations), printed on the reverse of this form to wit

1. That the names and addresses of the Publisher, editor managing editor, and business managers are Publisher National Comics Publications Inc., 480 Lexington Avenue New York 17 N Y Editor F W Ellsworth, 480 Lexington Avenue New York 17 N Y Managing Editor none, Business Manager, J S Liebowitz, 480 Lexington Avenue New York 17 N Y

2. That the owner is. (If owned by a corporation its name and address must be stated and also immediately thereunder the names and addresses of stockholders owning or holding one per cent or more of total amount of stock If not owned by a corporation the names and addresses of the individual owners must be given If owned by a firm company or other unincorporated concern, its name and address as well as those of each individual member must be given) National Comics Publications, Inc. H Donenfeld C Donenfeld J S Liebowitz A R Liebowitz F W Ellsworth S T Rampino J S Liebowitz A A I Morgin as Trustees for I Donenfeld and S Donenfeld A I Morgin & J I Goelnko as Trustees for L Liebowitz and J Liebowitz A Donenfeld, Fetes H Donenfeld Foundation (no all at 480 Lexington Ave. New York 17 N Y

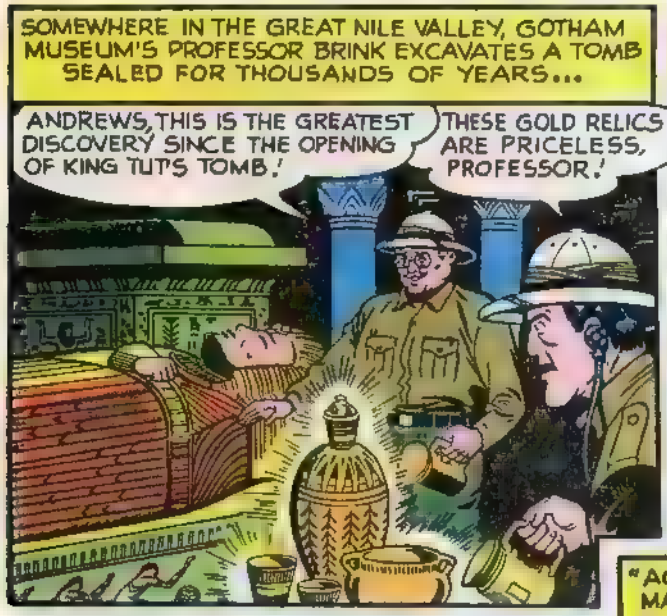
3 That the known bondholders, mortgagees, and other security holders owning or holding 1 per cent or more of total amount of bonds, mortgages, or other securities are none.

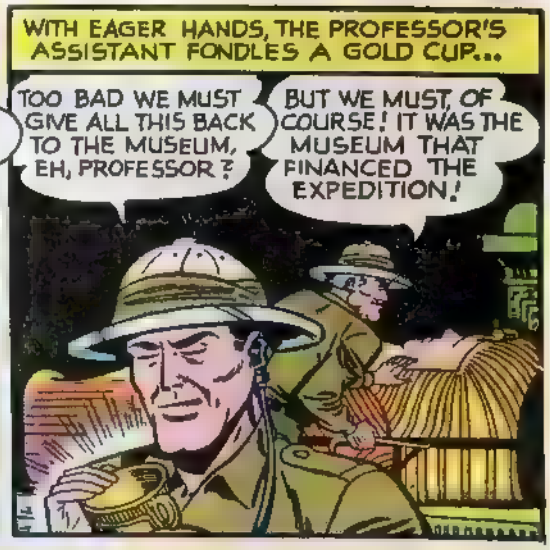
4 That the two paragraphs next above giving the names of the owners stockholders, and security holders if any contain not only the list of stockholders and security holders as they appear upon the books of the company but also, in cases where the stockholder or security holder appears upon the books of the company as trustee or in any other fiduciary relation, the name of the person or corporation for whom such trustee is acting is given, also that the said two paragraphs contain statements embracing affiant's full knowledge and belief as to the circumstances and conditions under which stockholders and security holders who do not appear upon the books of the company as trustees, hold stock and securities in a capacity other than that of a bona fide owner, and this affiant has no reason to believe that any other person, association or corporation has any interest direct or indirect in the said stock, bonds or other securities than as so stated by him

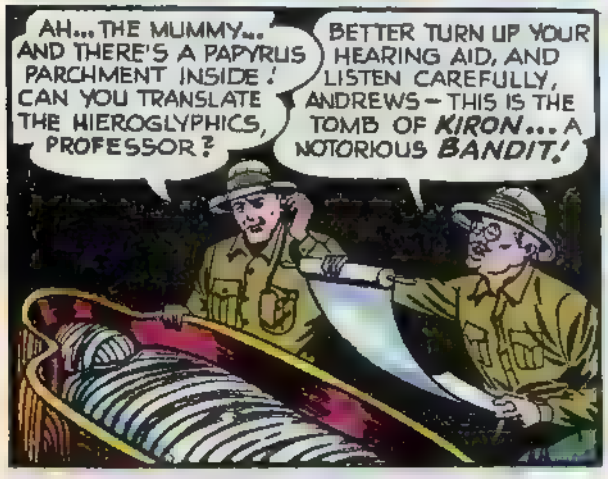
J S LIEBOWITZ, Business Manager

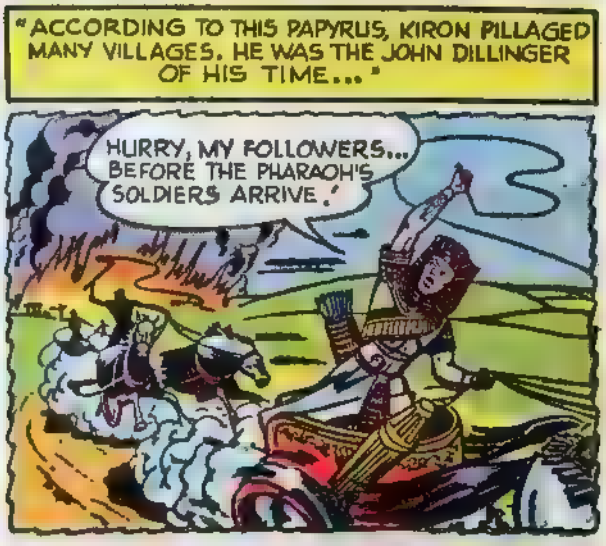
Sworn to and subscribed before me this 29th day of September 1949
ALFRED B. YAFFE, Notary Public (Commission expires March 30, 1950)

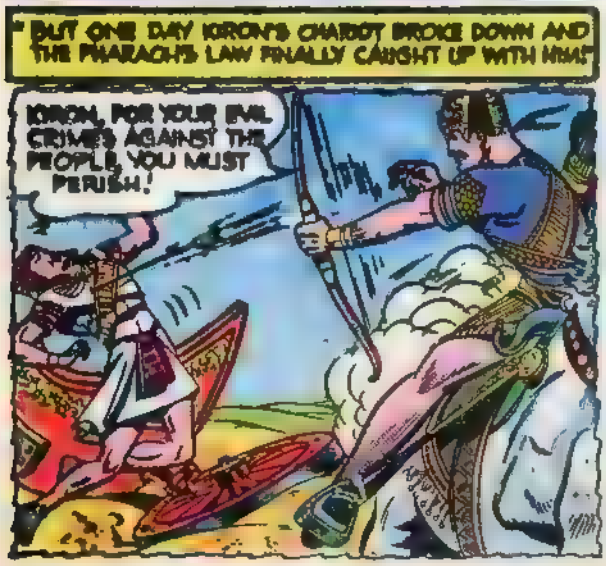
BATMAN
With
ROBIN
THE BOY WONDER
SOMEWHERE IN GOTHAM CITY, A MUMMY WALKS... A MUMMY WHO WAS ONCE THE MOST DARING CRIMINAL IN ANCIENT EGYPT! AND NOW THIS AGE-OLD BANDIT PLUNDERS AGAIN, EMPLOYING THE VERY SAME METHODS HE USED IN THE YEAR 3,000 B. C.! IMPOSSIBLE! INCREDIBLE? PERHAPS YOU'LL CHANGE YOUR MIND AS YOU WATCH A MODERN DAY LAWMAN FIGHT A CENTURIES OLD BANDIT, WHEN BATMAN, WITH ROBIN THE BOY WONDER, MEETS...
"THE WALKING MUMMY!"
BOB KANE

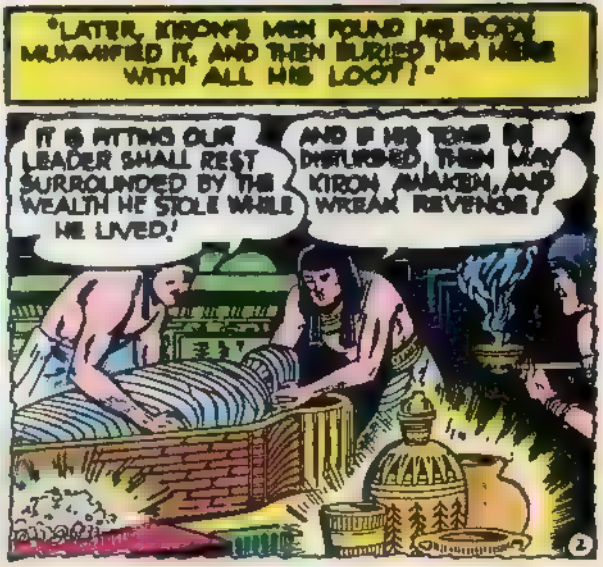

SOMEWHERE IN THE GREAT NILE VALLEY, GOTHAM MUSEUM'S PROFESSOR BRINK EXCAVATES A TOMB SEALED FOR THOUSANDS OF YEARS...
ANDREWS, THIS IS THE GREATEST DISCOVERY SINCE THE OPENING OF KING TUT'S TOMB!
THESE GOLD RELICS ARE PRICELESS, PROFESSOR!

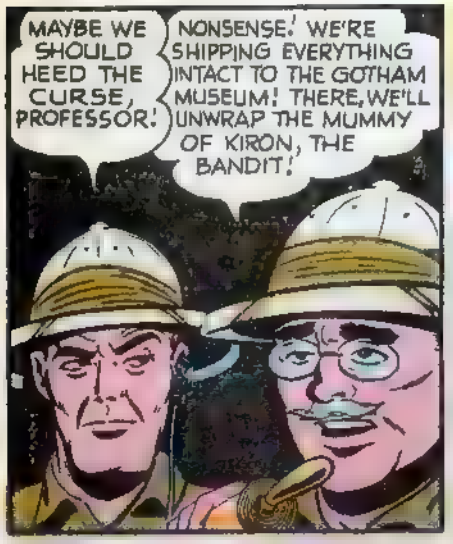

WITH EAGER HANDS, THE PROFESSOR'S ASSISTANT FONDLES A GOLD CUP...
TOO BAD WE MUST GIVE ALL THIS BACK TO THE MUSEUM, EH, PROFESSOR?
BUT WE MUST, OF COURSE! IT WAS THE MUSEUM THAT FINANCED THE EXPEDITION!

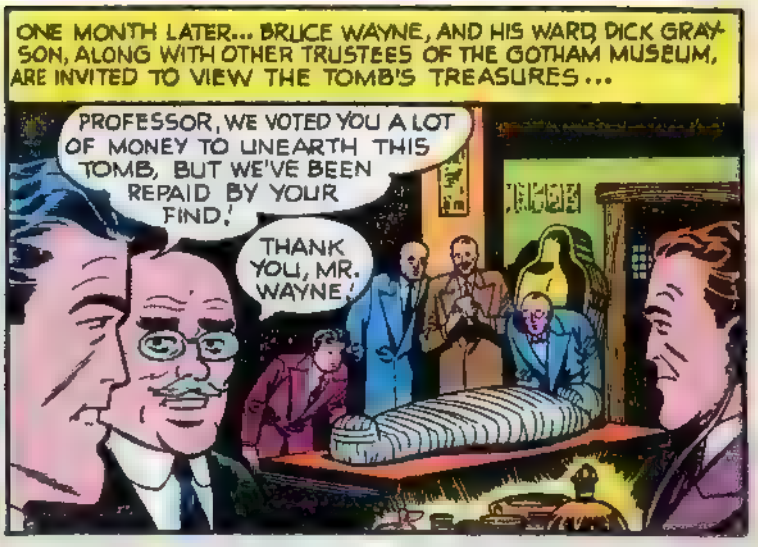

AH... THE MUMMY... AND THERE'S A PAPYRUS PARCHMENT INSIDE! CAN YOU TRANSLATE THE HIEROGLYPHICS, PROFESSOR?
BETTER TURN UP YOUR HEARING AID, AND LISTEN CAREFULLY, ANDREWS — THIS IS THE TOMB OF KIRON... A NOTORIOUS BANDIT!

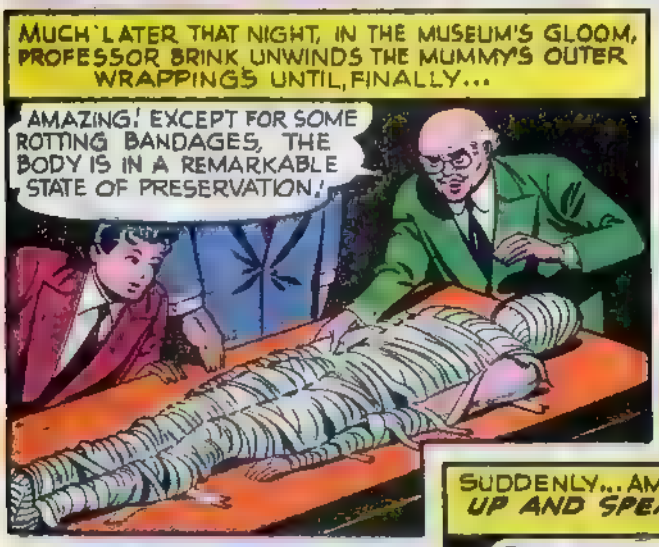

"ACCORDING TO THIS PAPYRUS, KIRON PILLAGED MANY VILLAGES. HE WAS THE JOHN DILLINGER OF HIS TIME..."
HURRY, MY FOLLOWERS... BEFORE THE PHARAOH'S SOLDIERS ARRIVE!

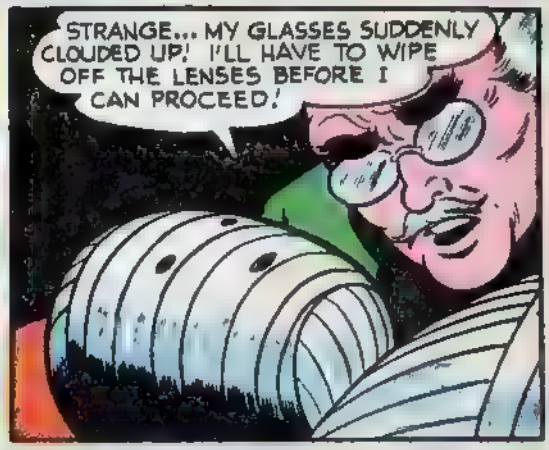

"BUT ONE DAY KIRON'S CHARIOT BROKE DOWN AND THE PHARAOH'S LAW FINALLY CAUGHT UP WITH HIM!"
KIRON, FOR YOUR EVIL CRIMES AGAINST THE PEOPLE, YOU MUST PERISH!

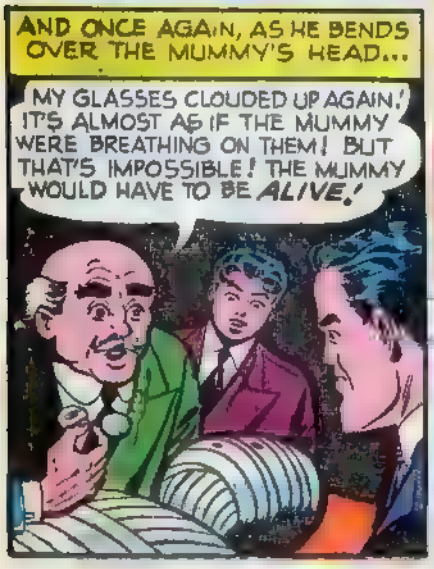

"LATER, KIRON'S MEN FOUND HIS BODY, MUMMIFIED IT, AND THEN BURIED HIM HERE WITH ALL HIS LOOT!"
IT IS FITTING OUR LEADER SHALL REST SURROUNDED BY THE WEALTH HE STOLE WHILE HE LIVED!
AND IF HIS TOMB BE DISTURBED, THEN MAY KIRON AWAKEN, AND WREAK REVENGE!

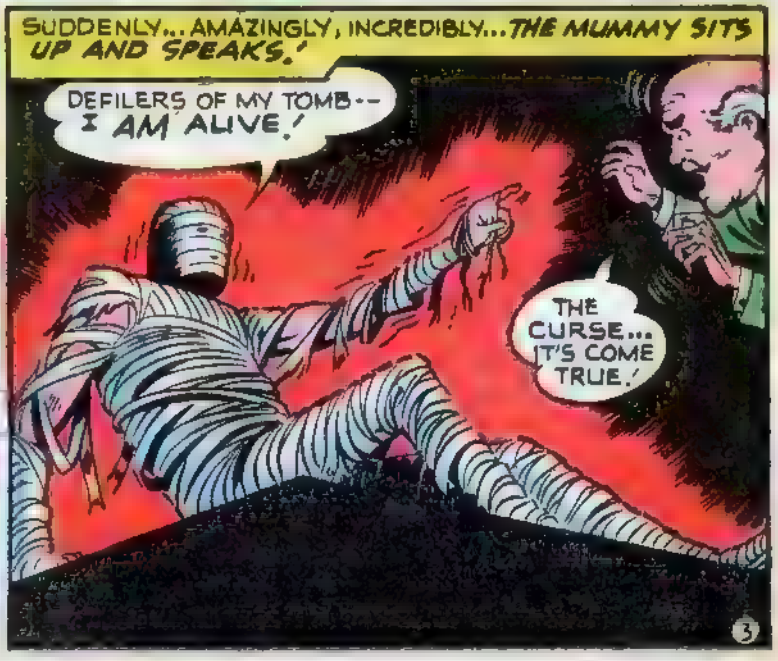

MAYBE WE SHOULD HEED THE CURSE, PROFESSOR!
NONSENSE! WE'RE SHIPPING EVERYTHING INTACT TO THE GOTHAM MUSEUM! THERE, WE'LL UNWRAP THE MUMMY OF KIRON, THE BANDIT!

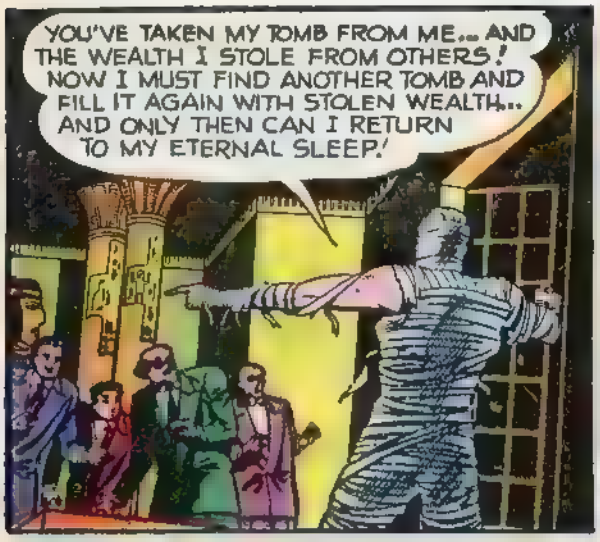

ONE MONTH LATER... BRUCE WAYNE, AND HIS WARD, DICK GRAYSON, ALONG WITH OTHER TRUSTEES OF THE GOTHAM MUSEUM, ARE INVITED TO VIEW THE TOMB'S TREASURES...
PROFESSOR, WE VOTED YOU A LOT OF MONEY TO UNEARTH THIS TOMB, BUT WE'VE BEEN REPAID BY YOUR FIND!
THANK YOU, MR. WAYNE!

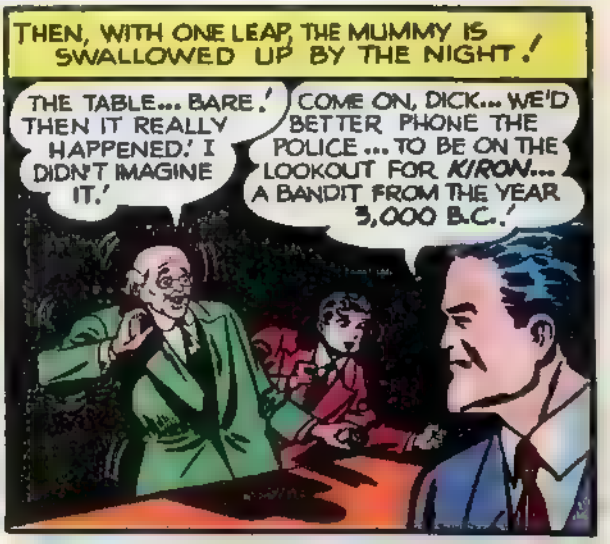

MUCH LATER THAT NIGHT, IN THE MUSEUM'S GLOOM, PROFESSOR BRINK UNWINDS THE MUMMY'S OUTER WRAPPINGS UNTIL, FINALLY...
AMAZING! EXCEPT FOR SOME ROTTING BANDAGES, THE BODY IS IN A REMARKABLE STATE OF PRESERVATION!

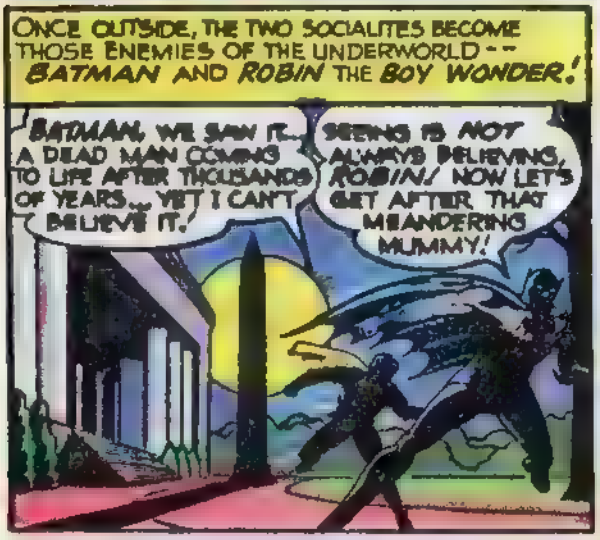

STRANGE... MY GLASSES SUDDENLY CLOUDED UP! I'LL HAVE TO WIPE OFF THE LENSES BEFORE I CAN PROCEED!

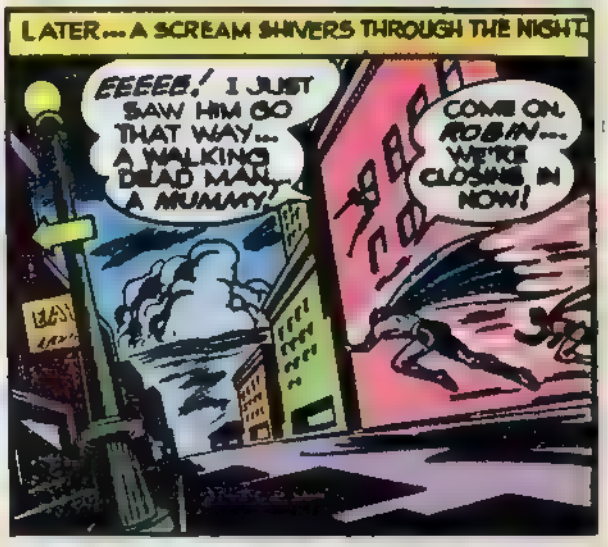

AND ONCE AGAIN, AS HE BENDS OVER THE MUMMY'S HEAD...
MY GLASSES CLOUDED UP AGAIN! IT'S ALMOST AS IF THE MUMMY WERE BREATHING ON THEM! BUT THAT'S IMPOSSIBLE! THE MUMMY WOULD HAVE TO BE ALIVE!

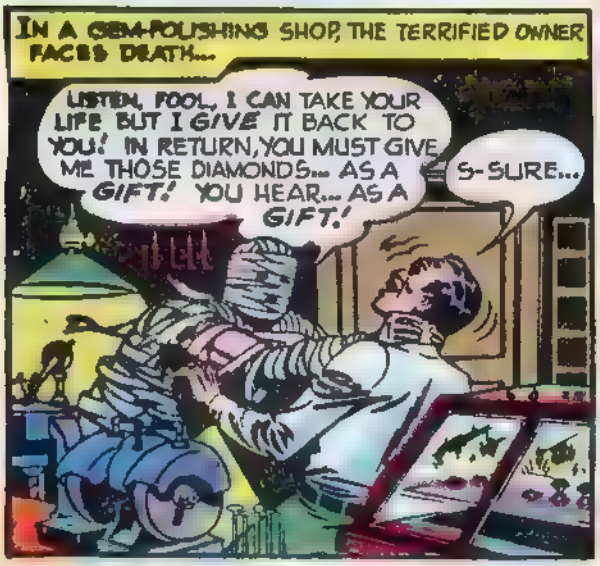

SUDDENLY... AMAZINGLY, INCREDIBLY... THE MUMMY SITS UP AND SPEAKS!
DEFILERS OF MY TOMB-- I AM ALIVE!
THE CURSE... IT'S COME TRUE!


YOU'VE TAKEN MY TOMB FROM ME... AND THE WEALTH I STOLE FROM OTHERS! NOW I MUST FIND ANOTHER TOMB AND FILL IT AGAIN WITH STOLEN WEALTH... AND ONLY THEN CAN I RETURN TO MY ETERNAL SLEEP!

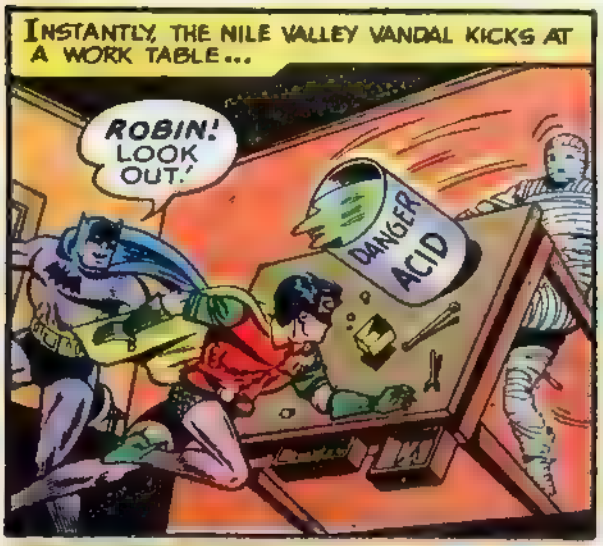

THEN, WITH ONE LEAP, THE MUMMY IS SWALLOWED UP BY THE NIGHT!
THE TABLE... BARE! THEN IT REALLY HAPPENED! I DIDN'T IMAGINE IT!
COME ON, DICK... WE'D BETTER PHONE THE POLICE ... TO BE ON THE LOOKOUT FOR KIRON... A BANDIT FROM THE YEAR 3,000 B.C.!

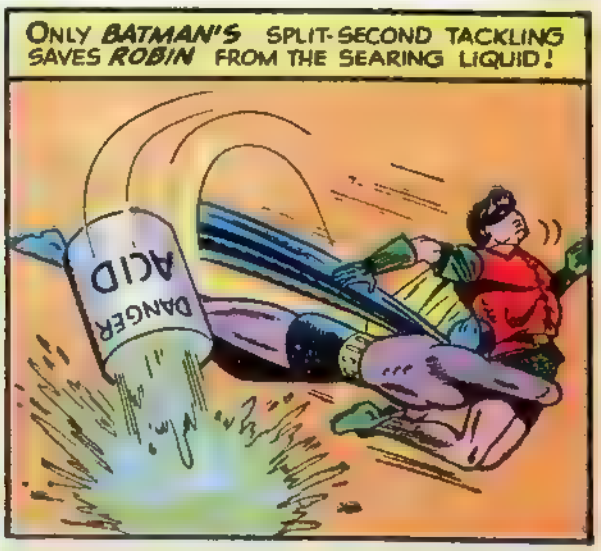

ONCE OUTSIDE, THE TWO SOCIALITES BECOME THOSE ENEMIES OF THE UNDERWORLD -- BATMAN AND ROBIN THE BOY WONDER!
BATMAN, WE SAW IT... A DEAD MAN COMING TO LIFE AFTER THOUSANDS OF YEARS... YET I CAN'T BELIEVE IT!
SEEING IS NOT ALWAYS BELIEVING, ROBIN! NOW LET'S GET AFTER THAT MEANDERING MUMMY!

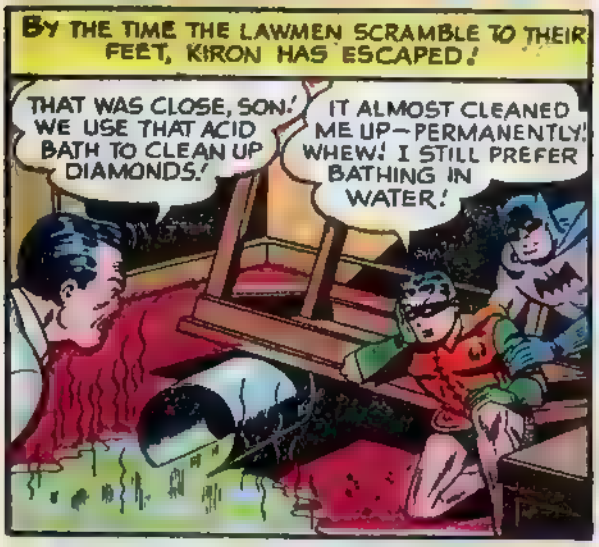

LATER... A SCREAM SHIVERS THROUGH THE NIGHT
EEEEE! I JUST SAW HIM GO THAT WAY... A WALKING DEAD MAN, A MUMMY!
COME ON, ROBIN... WE'RE CLOSING IN NOW!

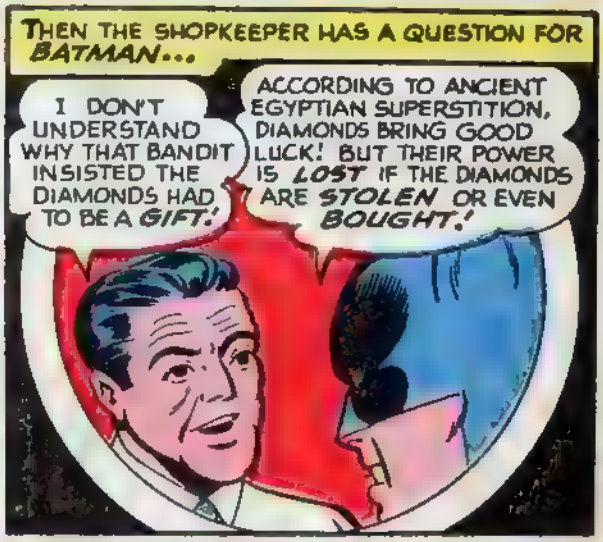

IN A GEM-POLISHING SHOP, THE TERRIFIED OWNER FACES DEATH...
LISTEN, FOOL, I CAN TAKE YOUR LIFE, BUT I GIVE IT BACK TO YOU! IN RETURN, YOU MUST GIVE ME THOSE DIAMONDS... AS A GIFT! YOU HEAR... AS A GIFT!
S-SURE...

DON'T BOTHER! IF YOU WANT GIFTS, MISTER MUMMY, I'VE GOT TWO FISTS I'LL BE GLAD TO HAND YOU!

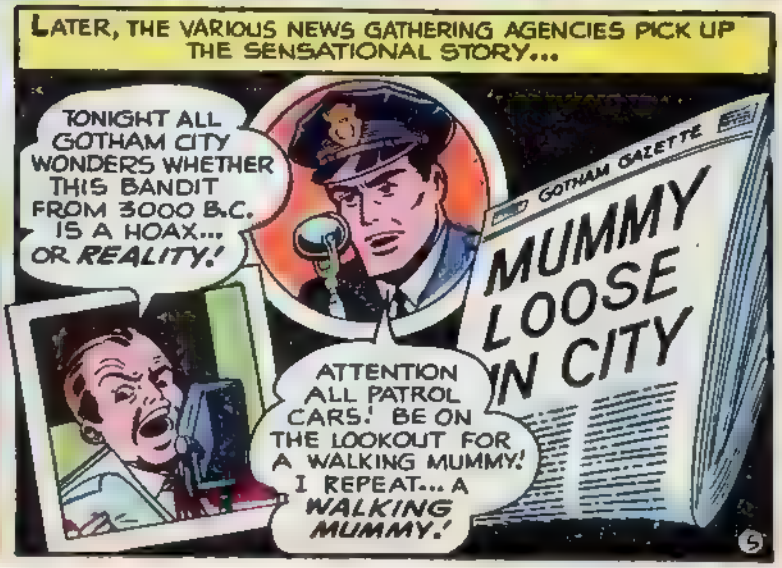

INSTANTLY, THE NILE VALLEY VANDAL KICKS AT A WORK TABLE...
ROBIN! LOOK OUT!
DANGER ACID


ONLY BATMAN'S SPLIT-SECOND TACKLING SAVES ROBIN FROM THE SEARING LIQUID!
DANGER ACID

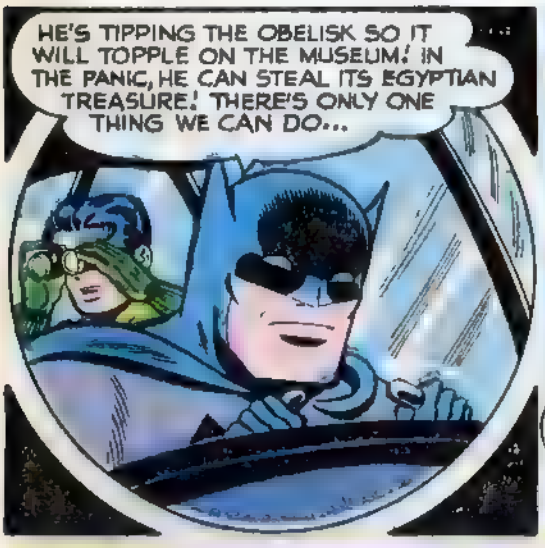

BY THE TIME THE LAWMEN SCRAMBLE TO THEIR FEET, KIRON HAS ESCAPED!
THAT WAS CLOSE, SON! WE USE THAT ACID BATH TO CLEAN UP DIAMONDS!
IT ALMOST CLEANED ME UP—PERMANENTLY! WHEW! I STILL PREFER BATHING IN WATER!

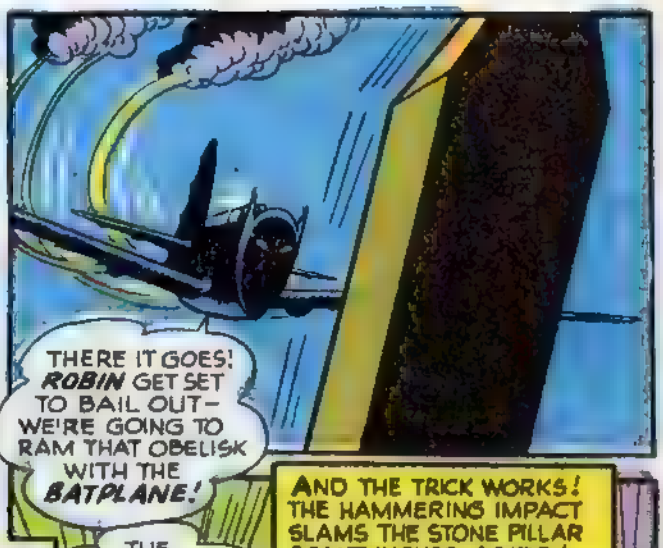

THEN THE SHOPKEEPER HAS A QUESTION FOR BATMAN...
I DON'T UNDERSTAND WHY THAT BANDIT INSISTED THE DIAMONDS HAD TO BE A GIFT!
ACCORDING TO ANCIENT EGYPTIAN SUPERSTITION, DIAMONDS BRING GOOD LUCK! BUT THEIR POWER IS LOST IF THE DIAMONDS ARE STOLEN OR EVEN BOUGHT!

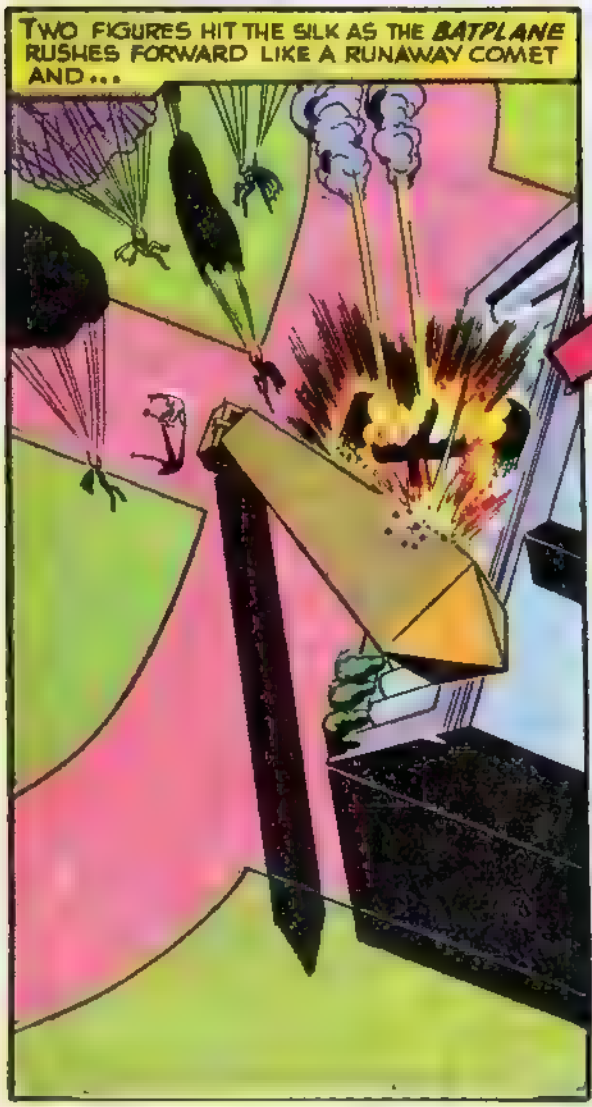
DIAMONDS MUST BE GIFTS TO BECOME GOOD LUCK CHARMS!
HMM! KIRON SEEMS TO BE FOLLOWING THE SAME TECHNIQUE HE USED IN ANCIENT EGYPT!

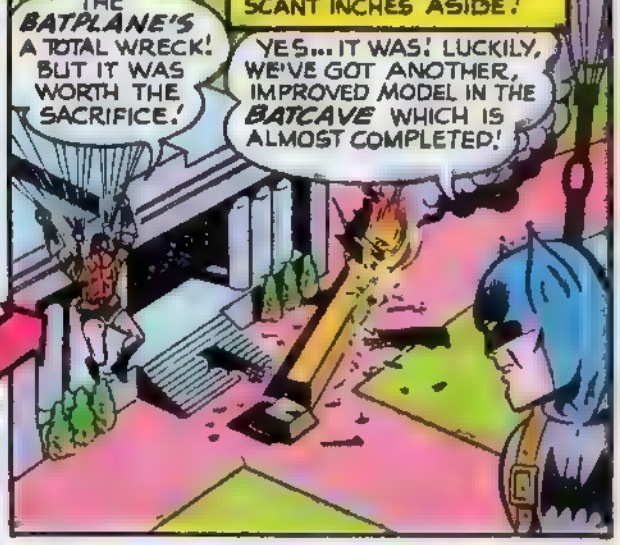

LATER, THE VARIOUS NEWS GATHERING AGENCIES PICK UP THE SENSATIONAL STORY...
TONIGHT ALL GOTHAM CITY WONDERS WHETHER THIS BANDIT FROM 3000 B.C. IS A HOAX... OR REALITY!
ATTENTION ALL PATROL CARS! BE ON THE LOOKOUT FOR A WALKING MUMMY! I REPEAT... A WALKING MUMMY!
GOTHAM GAZETTE
MUMMY LOOSE IN CITY

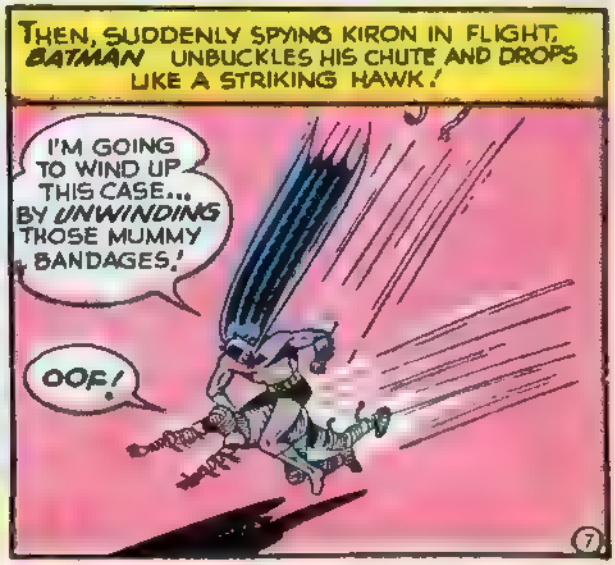
DOORS ARE BARRED... WINDOWS SHUTTERED... STREETS ARE DESERTED... FOR SOMEWHERE, THE MUMMY WALKS!
SOON... AFTER ANOTHER ODD CRIME...
WHAT'S PUZZLING IS THAT HE DELIBERATELY STOLE OUR "KNOTTED" NOVELTY WEDDING RINGS!
ANCIENT EGYPTIANS WORE RINGS OF KNOTTED GOLD WIRE AS LUCK CHARMS... HOPING THEY'D TIE ENEMIES INTO KNOTS, MAKING THEM HELPLESS!
Arty
GOLDWORKING CO.
Wedding Rings our Specialty...
LATER, THE CAPED CRIME-BUSTERS TAKE TO THE AIR IN THE SWIFT BATPLANE!
YOU MEAN HE STOLE THAT CRATE OF RINGS TO TIE US INTO KNOTS?
PERHAPS... BUT I BELIEVE SINCE ONE HEAVY CRATE WAS ALL HE COULD CARRY, HE CHOSE THE KNOTTED RINGS TO CONTINUE HIS EGYPTIAN CRIME THEME!
UP HERE WE GET A LONG-RANGE VIEW OF THE STREETS! WE'VE GOT A GOOD CHANCE OF SPOTTING KIRON BELOW! KEEP YOUR EYES OPEN, ROBIN!
RIGHT!
ONE HOUR LATER, AS THE BATPLANE COVERS THE CITY IN EVER-WIDENING CIRCLES...
BATMAN... I'VE SPOTTED KIRON! HE'S AT THE BASE OF THE EGYPTIAN OBELISK NEAR THE MUSEUM!
HE'S DRIVING A WEDGE INTO THE BASE OF THE OBELISK!
6

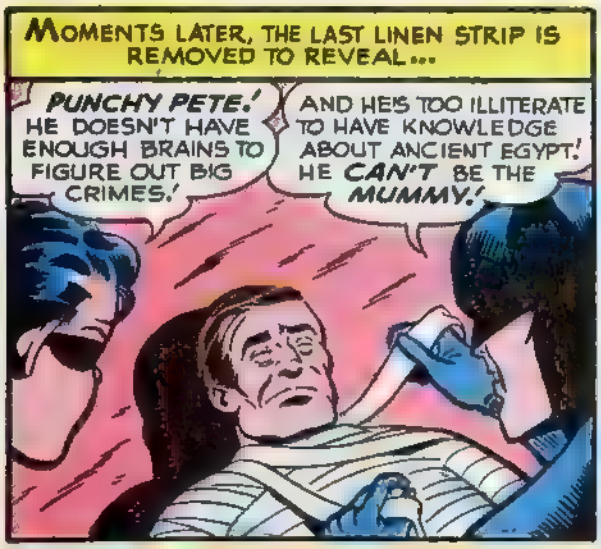

HE'S TIPPING THE OBELISK SO IT WILL TOPPLE ON THE MUSEUM! IN THE PANIC, HE CAN STEAL ITS EGYPTIAN TREASURE! THERE'S ONLY ONE THING WE CAN DO...


THERE IT GOES! ROBIN GET SET TO BAIL OUT— WE'RE GOING TO RAM THAT OBELISK WITH THE BATPLANE!
AND THE TRICK WORKS! THE HAMMERING IMPACT SLAMS THE STONE PILLAR SCANT INCHES ASIDE!

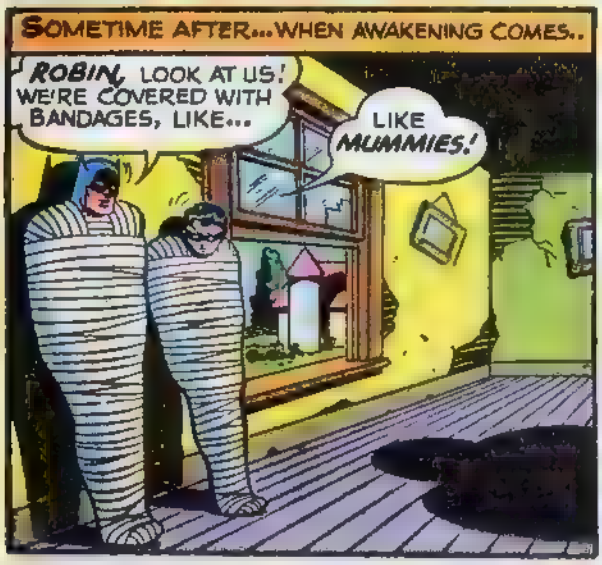

TWO FIGURES HIT THE SILK AS THE BATPLANE RUSHES FORWARD LIKE A RUNAWAY COMET AND...

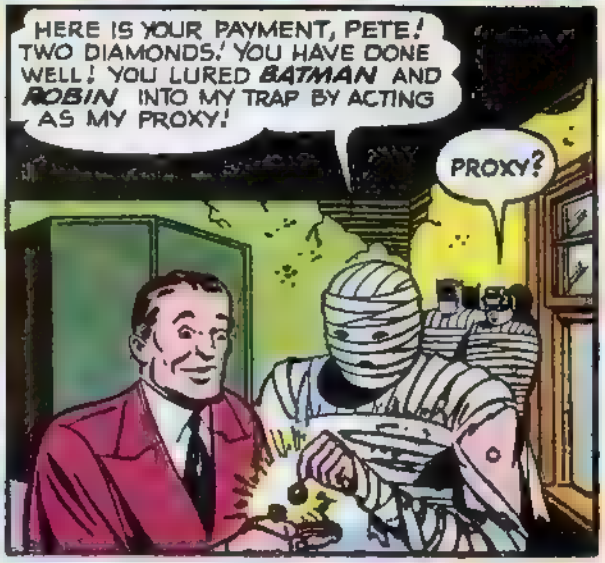

THE BATPLANE'S A TOTAL WRECK! BUT IT WAS WORTH THE SACRIFICE!
YES... IT WAS! LUCKILY, WE'VE GOT ANOTHER, IMPROVED MODEL IN THE BATCAVE WHICH IS ALMOST COMPLETED!


THEN, SUDDENLY SPYING KIRON IN FLIGHT, BATMAN UNBUCKLES HIS CHUTE AND DROPS LIKE A STRIKING HAWK!
I'M GOING TO WIND UP THIS CASE... BY UNWINDING THOSE MUMMY BANDAGES!
OOF!

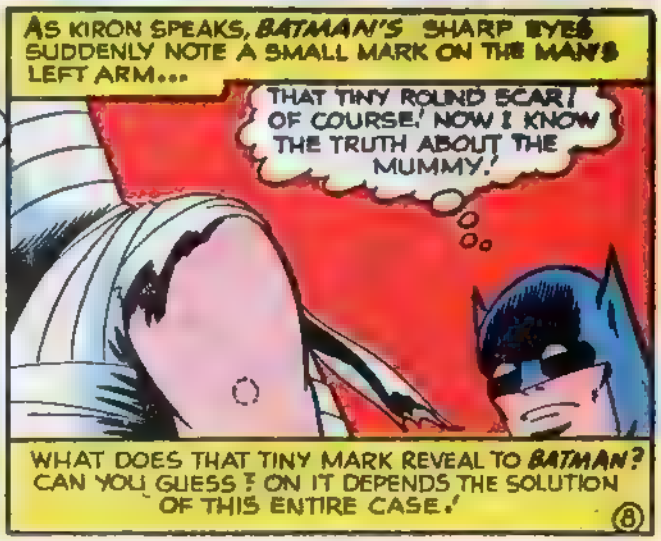

MOMENTS LATER, THE LAST LINEN STRIP IS REMOVED TO REVEAL...
PUNCHY PETE.' HE DOESN'T HAVE ENOUGH BRAINS TO FIGURE OUT BIG CRIMES.'
AND HE'S TOO ILLITERATE TO HAVE KNOWLEDGE ABOUT ANCIENT EGYPT! HE CAN'T BE THE MUMMY.'

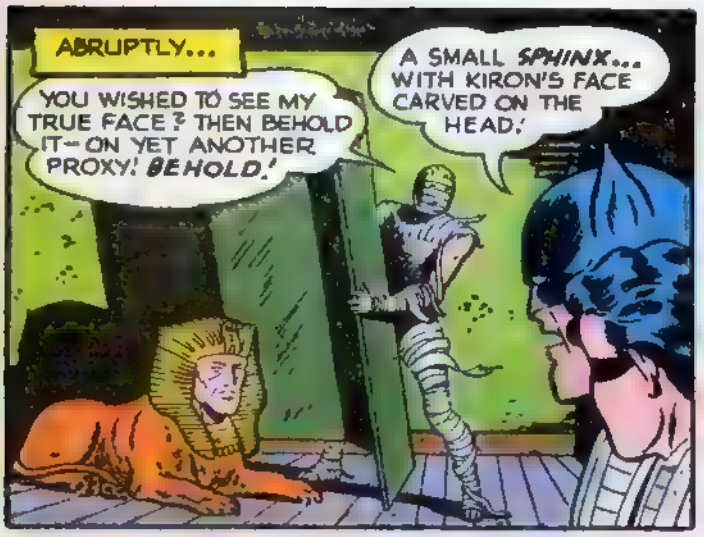
VERY TRUE.' I AM THE ONE YOU SEEK.'
ANOTHER MUMMY--?


SOMETIME AFTER...WHEN AWAKENING COMES..
ROBIN, LOOK AT US! WE'RE COVERED WITH BANDAGES, LIKE...
LIKE MUMMIES.'

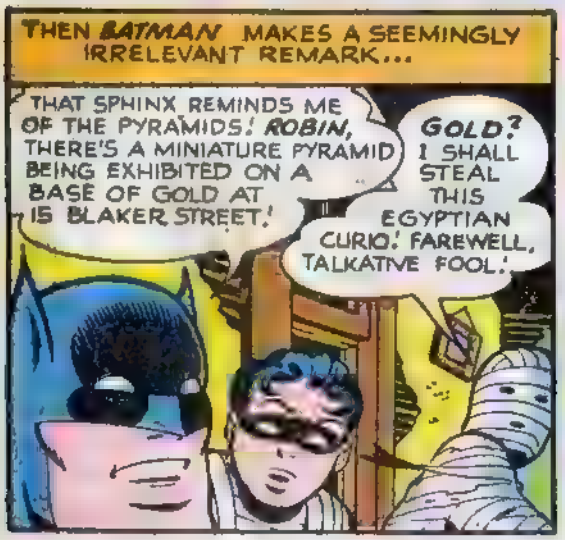

HERE IS YOUR PAYMENT, PETE.' TWO DIAMONDS.' YOU HAVE DONE WELL.' YOU LURED BATMAN AND ROBIN INTO MY TRAP BY ACTING AS MY PROXY.'
PROXY?

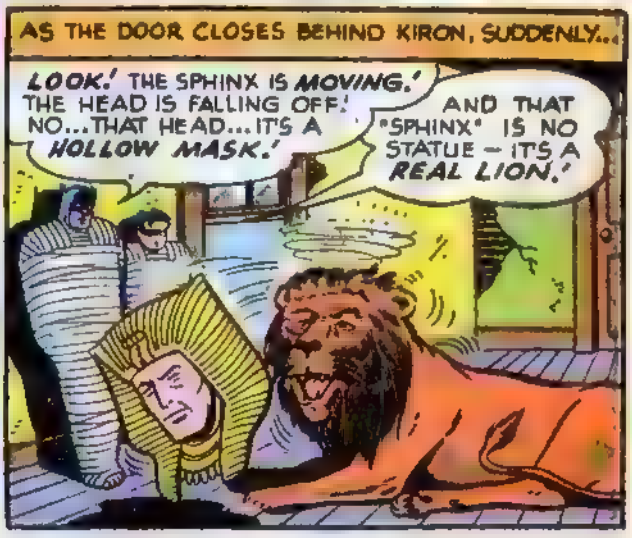
ANOTHER AUTHENTIC EGYPTIAN TRICK, ROBIN.' THE ANCIENT EGYPTIANS USED PROXIES... SUBSTITUTES ON MANY OCCASIONS.'
TRUE.' IN MY LAND, THE USE OF SUBSTITUTES WAS DEVELOPED TO A HIGH DEGREE.'


AS KIRON SPEAKS, BATMAN'S SHARP EYES SUDDENLY NOTE A SMALL MARK ON THE MAN'S LEFT ARM...
THAT TINY ROUND SCAR.' OF COURSE.' NOW I KNOW THE TRUTH ABOUT THE MUMMY.'
WHAT DOES THAT TINY MARK REVEAL TO BATMAN? CAN YOU GUESS? ON IT DEPENDS THE SOLUTION OF THIS ENTIRE CASE.'

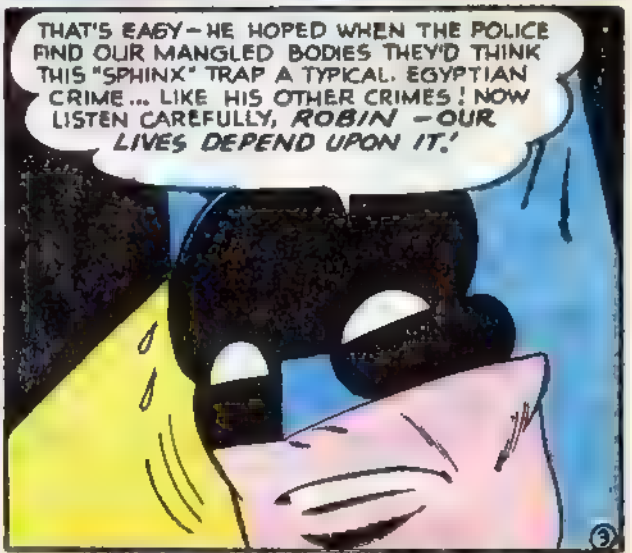

ABRUPTLY...
YOU WISHED TO SEE MY TRUE FACE? THEN BEHOLD IT—ON YET ANOTHER PROXY! BEHOLD!
A SMALL SPHINX... WITH KIRON'S FACE CARVED ON THE HEAD!

BUT A LION... KIRON'S PROXY?
ANCIENT EGYPTIAN NOBLES MADE A LION A SYMBOL OF THEIR STRENGTH; THERE'S A MAN'S HEAD ON THE LION'S BODY OF THE ORIGINAL SPHINX BECAUSE THE NOBLE CONSIDERED IT A SELF-PORTRAIT.


THEN BATMAN MAKES A SEEMINGLY IRRELEVANT REMARK...
THAT SPHINX REMINDS ME OF THE PYRAMIDS! ROBIN, THERE'S A MINIATURE PYRAMID BEING EXHIBITED ON A BASE OF GOLD AT 15 BLAKER STREET!
GOLD? I SHALL STEAL THIS EGYPTIAN CURIO! FAREWELL, TALKATIVE FOOL!


AS THE DOOR CLOSES BEHIND KIRON, SUDDENLY...
LOOK! THE SPHINX IS MOVING! THE HEAD IS FALLING OFF! NO...THAT HEAD...IT'S A HOLLOW MASK!
AND THAT "SPHINX" IS NO STATUE—IT'S A REAL LION!

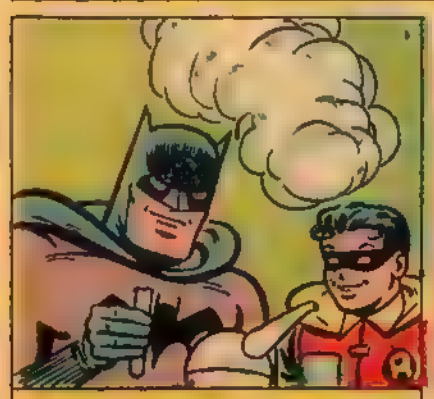
KIRON OBVIOUSLY PARALYZED THE LION TEMPORARILY WITH A DRUG AND NOW THE DRUG IS WEARING OFF!
WHY DIDN'T HE JUST KILL US INSTEAD OF PREPARING THIS "SPHINX" LION TRAP!


THAT'S EASY—HE HOPED WHEN THE POLICE FIND OUR MANGLED BODIES THEY'D THINK THIS "SPHINX" TRAP A TYPICAL EGYPTIAN CRIME... LIKE HIS OTHER CRIMES! NOW LISTEN CAREFULLY, ROBIN—OUR LIVES DEPEND UPON IT!
3

CONTINUED ON THIRD PAGE FOLLOWING

1950
BATMAN AND ROBIN CALENDAR

FROM THE PAGES OF: DETECTIVE COMICS, WORLD'S FINEST COMICS, STAR SPANGLED COMICS AND BATMAN



January

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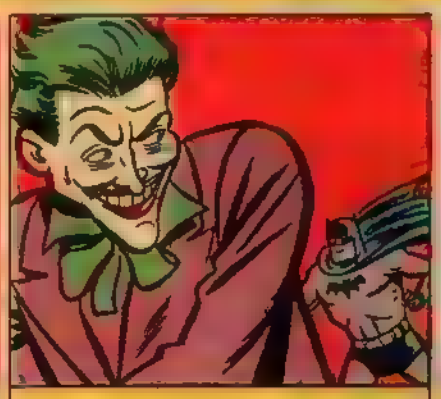

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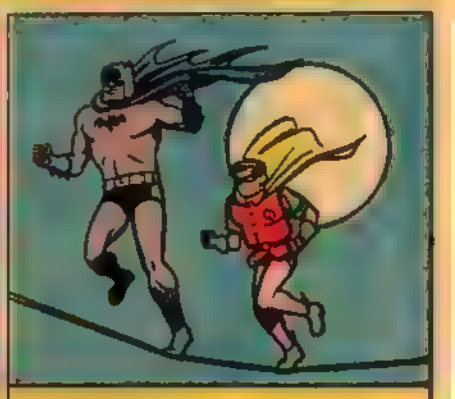

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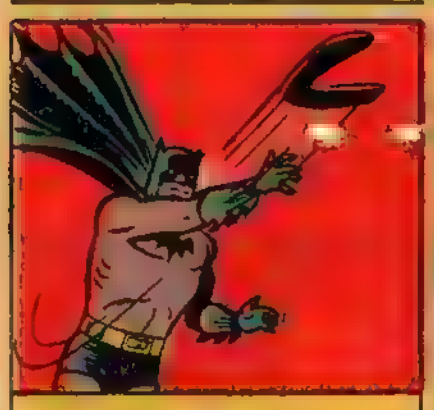

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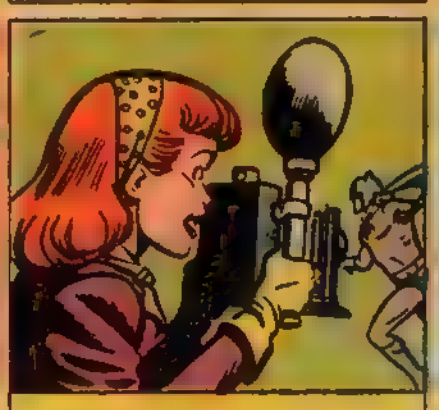

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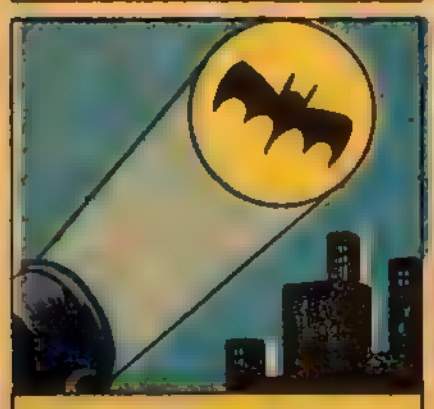

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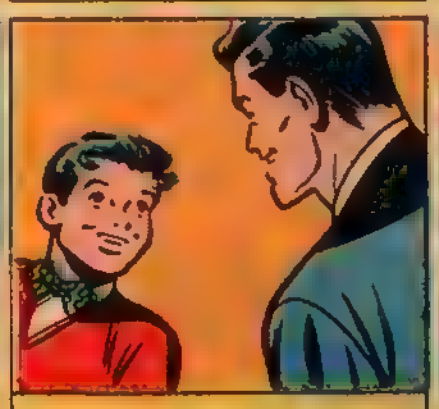

October

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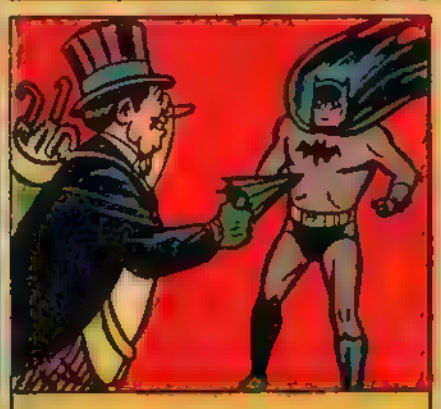

November

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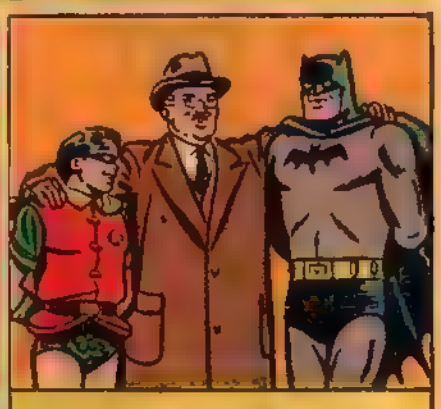

December

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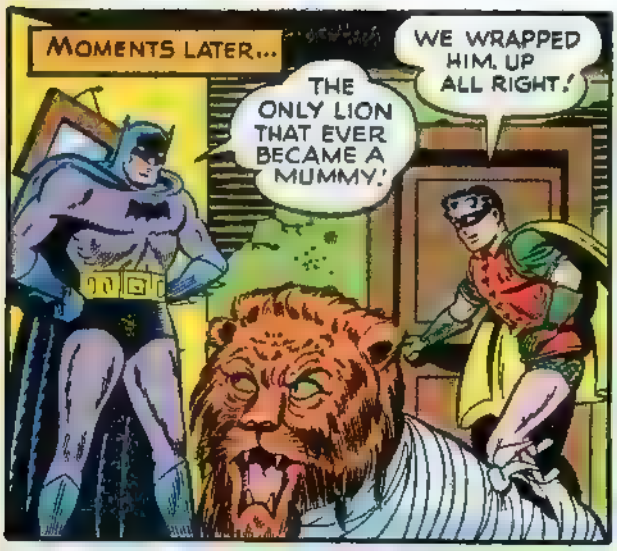
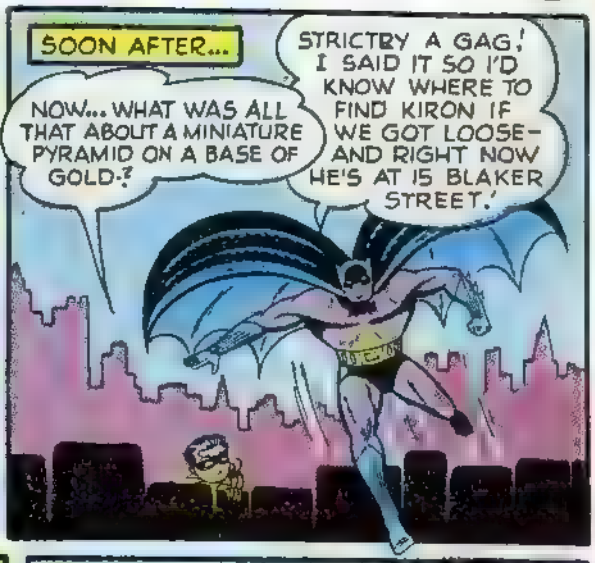
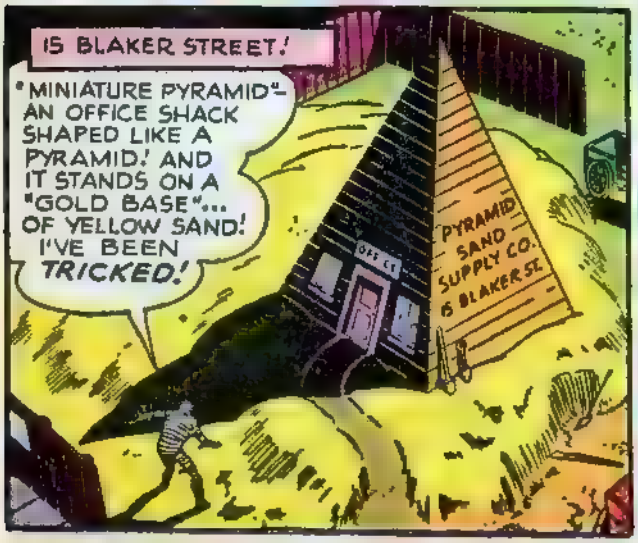
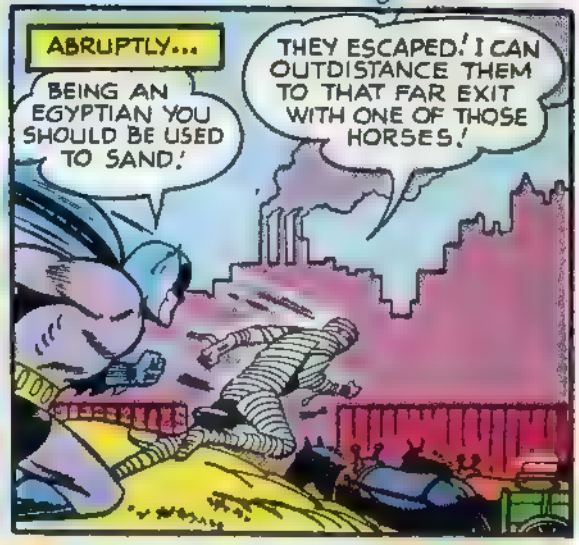
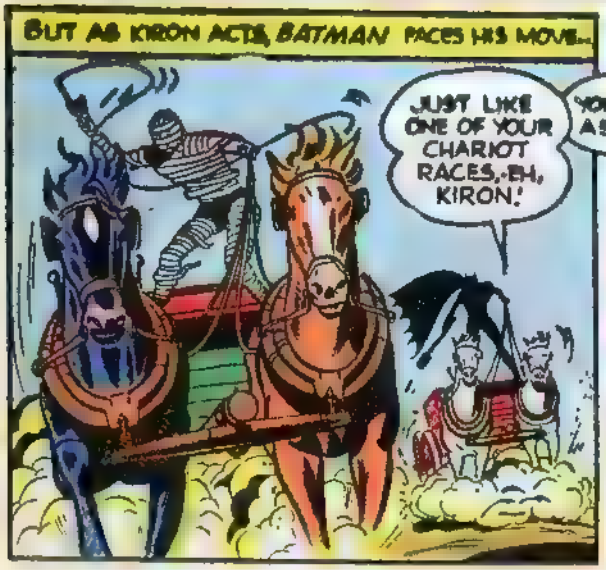
AN INSTANT LATER, AFTER REVEALING HIS PLAN, BATMAN TEARS AT ROBIN'S BONDS WITH HIS STRONG TEETH....
GOOD, BATMAN! YOU'VE TORN ONE END OF THE BANDAGE FREE.'
HIS TEETH STILL CLENCHING THE BANDAGE, BATMAN FLEXES HIS MUSCLES THEN — PUSHES ROBIN THROUGH THE WINDOW.'
AS BATMAN'S TIGHT TEETH AND HEAVIER WEIGHT KEEP THE BANDAGE TAUT, ROBIN LITERALLY UNROLLS TWO STORIES DOWN TO THE SOFT GRASS.
LUCKILY, BATMAN REALIZED WE WERE IN AN OLD FARM HOUSE.'
STILL ROLLING AFTER HE HITS THE GROUND, ROBIN UNWINDS THE BANDAGE LIKE A SPOOL OF THREAD.'
JUST A LITTLE MORE AND I'M FREE!
ONE MINUTE LATER, THE LION AWAKES FULLY, AND TENSES... READY TO SPRING!
R-R-AW-R!
SUDDENLY ROBIN SNAKES OUT HIS SILKEN ROPE!
HE MADE IT, ROBIN!
IN PERSON... AND NOT A PROXY!

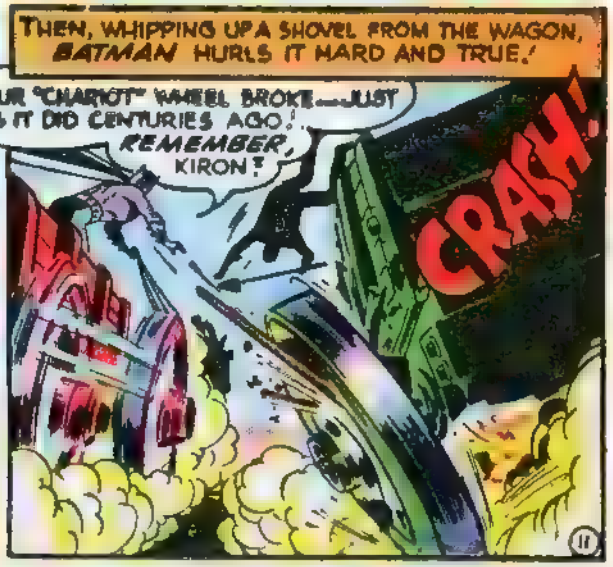

MOMENTS LATER...
THE ONLY LION THAT EVER BECAME A MUMMY!
WE WRAPPED HIM UP ALL RIGHT!

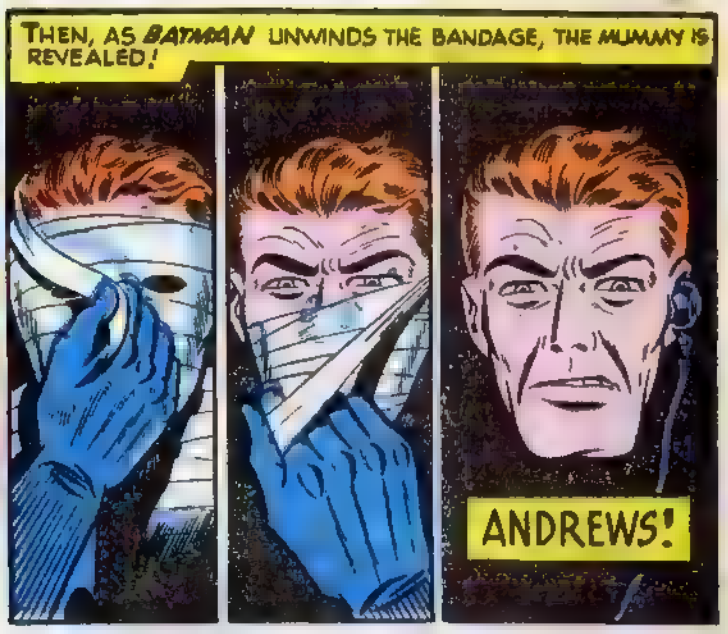

SOON AFTER...
NOW... WHAT WAS ALL THAT ABOUT A MINIATURE PYRAMID ON A BASE OF GOLD?
STRICTLY A GAG! I SAID IT SO I'D KNOW WHERE TO FIND KIRON IF WE GOT LOOSE— AND RIGHT NOW HE'S AT 15 BLAKER STREET!

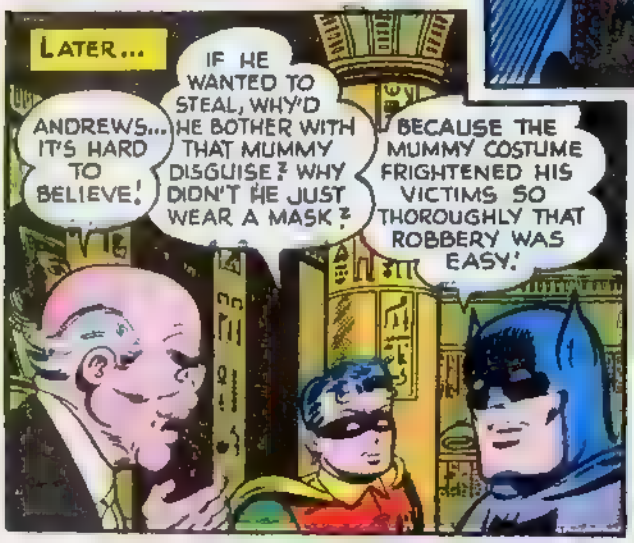

IS BLAKER STREET!
"MINIATURE PYRAMID"— AN OFFICE SHACK SHAPED LIKE A PYRAMID! AND IT STANDS ON A "GOLD BASE"... OF YELLOW SAND! I'VE BEEN TRICKED!
PYRAMID SAND SUPPLY CO. 6 BLAKER ST.

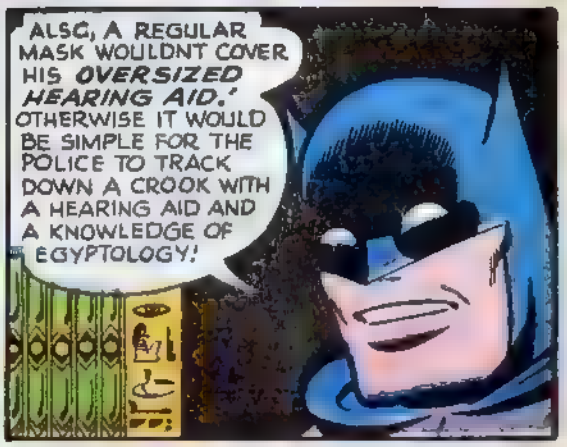

ABRUPTLY...
BEING AN EGYPTIAN YOU SHOULD BE USED TO SAND!
THEY ESCAPED! I CAN OUTDISTANCE THEM TO THAT FAR EXIT WITH ONE OF THOSE HORSES!

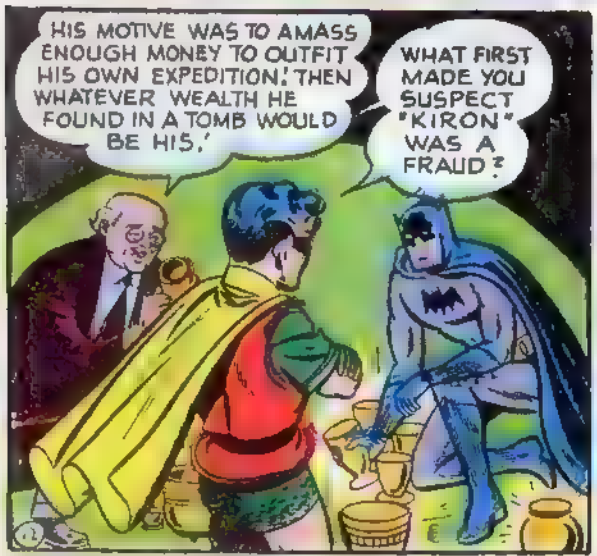

BUT AS KIRON ACTS, BATMAN PACES HIS MOVE...
JUST LIKE ONE OF YOUR CHARIOT RACES,-EH, KIRON!

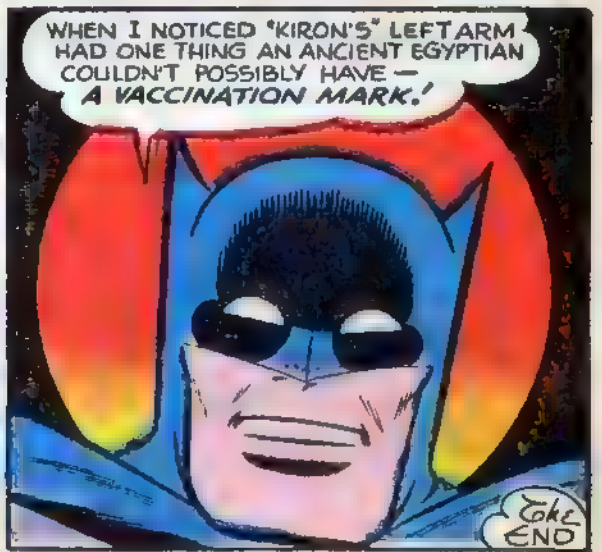

THEN, WHIPPING UP A SHOVEL FROM THE WAGON, BATMAN HURLS IT HARD AND TRUE!
YOUR "CHARIOT" WHEEL BROKE—JUST AS IT DID CENTURIES AGO! REMEMBER, KIRON?
CRASH!




LATER...
ANDREWS... IT'S HARD TO BELIEVE!
IF HE WANTED TO STEAL, WHY'D HE BOTHER WITH THAT MUMMY DISGUISE? WHY DIDN'T HE JUST WEAR A MASK?
BECAUSE THE MUMMY COSTUME FRIGHTENED HIS VICTIMS SO THOROUGHLY THAT ROBBERY WAS EASY!


ALSO, A REGULAR MASK WOULDN'T COVER HIS OVERSIZED HEARING AID.' OTHERWISE IT WOULD BE SIMPLE FOR THE POLICE TO TRACK DOWN A CROOK WITH A HEARING AID AND A KNOWLEDGE OF EGYPTOLOGY!

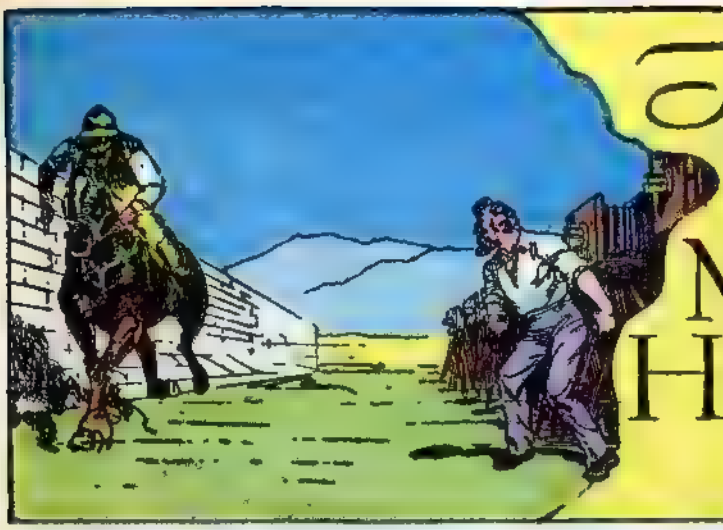

HIS MOTIVE WAS TO AMASS ENOUGH MONEY TO OUTFIT HIS OWN EXPEDITION! THEN WHATEVER WEALTH HE FOUND IN A TOMB WOULD BE HIS.'
WHAT FIRST MADE YOU SUSPECT "KIRON" WAS A FRAUD?



REMEMBER THE THREE R'S--ROBIN FIGHTS RASCALS AND RUFFIANS IN STAR SPANGLED COMICS, NOW ON SALE

BEAR TRAPPED!
IT WAS A WONDERFUL DAY FOR A HIKE UNTIL...
THAT WOUNDED BEAR MEANS BUSINESS, MAC! HEAD FOR THAT SHACK UP AHEAD!
PHEWW! THAT WAS CLOSE! HOPE THIS BAR IS STRONG ENOUGH!
SEVERAL HOURS LATER... NIGHT HAS FALLEN... THE LITTLE SHACK TREMBLES UNDER THE BEAR'S FIERCE CLAWS!
GOTTA BARRICADE THIS DOOR! DRAG THAT BOX OVER, RAY...
RIGHT...
HELLO, WHAT'S THIS? AN OLD FLASHLIGHT COVERED WITH COBWEBS AND -- IT WORKS! NOW WE CAN SIGNAL FOR HELP...
LATER, RESCUED BY THE FOREST RANGERS.
BOY, WAS I SURPRISED WHEN THAT ANCIENT FLASHLIGHT WORKED!
I WAS, TOO... UNTIL I SAW IT WAS LOADED WITH RAY-O-VACS!
RAY-O-VAC LEAK PROOFS ARE SEALED IN STEEL -- STAY FRESH FOR YEARS.
Buy Spares - They stay Fresh!
SEALED IN STEEL AND SUPER-INSULATED TO KEEP POWER IN AND TROUBLE OUT. GUARANTEED: A NEW FLASHLIGHT IF YOURS IS DAMAGED BY RAY-O-VAC LEAK PROOF BATTERIES.
ASK FOR RAY-O-VAC LEAK PROOFS THEY ARE GUARANTEED
Powerful battery
add steel bottom
add steel top
add insulation
add steel jacket
Ray-O-Vac

PEG
HENRY BOLTINOFF
ISN'T HE TERRIFIC, PEG? LOOK AT THAT GORGEOUS HUNK OF MAN!
LOOK! HE RECOVERED A FUMBLE! HE'S POSITIVELY HEAVENLY!
45
THE WAY SHE GUSHES OVER HER DATE--YOU'D THINK HE WAS SUPERMAN!
I'M NOT TRYING TO MAKE YOU FEEL BAD, PEG - BUT GOING TO THE DANCE TONIGHT WITH THE STAR OF THE FOOTBALL TEAM - THAT'S SOMETHING!
LATER..
IT'S OKAY - MAYBE MY DATE WILL SAVE A DANCE FOR YOU TONIGHT!
THE END



The BET THAT MADE HISTORY

NOT many events that begin as the result of a bet are ever recorded in the pages of history, but a bet made in 1872 by ex-Governor Leland Stanford of California made history—photographically, that is.

The bet was between ex-Governor Stanford and his friend, Frederick MacCrellish, both of whom were interested in horse racing. Governor Stanford was convinced that during the running of a race, horses in rapid motion at some time had all four feet off the ground at once.

Mr. MacCrellish didn't think so, and was willing to back his opinion with $25,000 in cash—a lot of money in those days. To settle the bet, when observation was insufficient to confirm Stanford's theory, the Governor employed Eadweard Muybridge, one of the best-known California photographers, to prove, if possible, that his theory was tri

Those were the days when cameras lacked today's modern refinements. There were no fast films, as we now know them. There were only the crudest types of shutters that could be used to stop motion. Cameras were large, bulky, and had to be set on a tripod before a picture could be taken. And, as for films, each photographer in those days had to sensitize his own glass plates, and take and develop the picture while the plate was still wet, to get any image at all.

Muybridge, it seemed to his contemporaries, had accepted an impossible assignment. He set to work, however, to solve it by an ingenious arrangement of cameras which he devised to solve the situation.

First, he built along one side of the race track a long, tall white wall against which a black horse would be contrasted strongly. He then lined up across from the wall a series of 24 cameras whose shutters were controlled by threads running across the track and fastened to the wall on the opposite side.

Then, with a group of special assistants, he prepared his wet photographic plates, loaded the cameras, and signaled for the horse to start running down the track. As the horse raced in front of the cameras, it broke the threads which controlled the camera shutters. Thus, each of the 24 cameras caught a picture of the horse in a slightly different position.

The results, although not too satisfactory at first, proved beyond a shadow of doubt that running horses at some point in their gait definitely had all four feet clear of the ground.

So important was Muybridge's work in studying motion in horses, that Muybridge, with

Gov. Stanford's backing, extended his work to include not only the motion of horses but of dogs, cattle, rabbits, and, men and women. He then devised a projection lantern whereby the picture taken in this manner could be projected successively onto a screen. This rapid projection technique resulted in an illusion of motion, and so some of the earliest motion pictures were shown.

Muybridge's projection machine, named the zoopraxiscope, was so unusual that it became one of the featured exhibits at the Chicago World's Fair of 1893. Although only 200 pictures could, at most, be shown in sequence by this technique, thousands of people flocked to the special building constructed to house the machine, just to see this marvelous discovery. Muybridge lectured to the crowds on the manner in which he made his pictures, and their possible significance in various fields. He eventually traveled to such distant points as London and Paris, where he also displayed his pictures and machine.

The first really important effect of Muybridge's pictures was their influence on art. Artists of that day drew pictures of men and animals in action in quite a different manner than they are drawn today. Running horses, for example, were most often shown with their legs fully extended forward and backward—whereas Muybridge's pictures definitely proved that horses do not run with both front legs forward and both back legs backward at one time.

One great French artist who saw Muybridge's pictures is reported to have lain awake all night long after seeing Muybridge's work because the shock to him was so great. One of America's greatest painters of the West—Frederic Remington—is believed to have been tremendously influenced by Muybridge's photos.

The development of flexible film by George Eastman, and the invention by Thomas A. Edison of a motion picture camera which made use of that film, eventually superceded Muybridge's type of "motion pictures." But the work Muybridge began in part has always been conceded to be of the greatest importance and has continued to grow and grow.

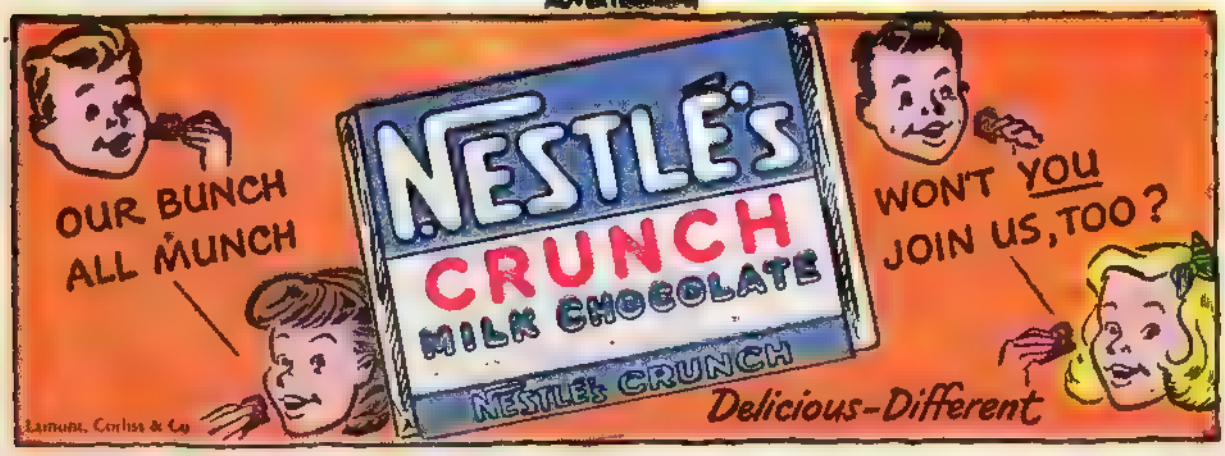
Today, for instance, in addition to home movies which can be made by anyone, there are cameras and films available which are used to take pictures of motion at speeds as great as 3,000 pictures a second. These high-speed pictures literally "extend time"—since what takes place in only a second or two requires approximately four minutes to run off on the screen. And so rapidly can consecutive pictures of moving objects be taken now, that pictures of bullets in flight, high-speed machines in motion, golf clubs whipping through the air, and other tremendously fast subjects can be made and studied at leisure.

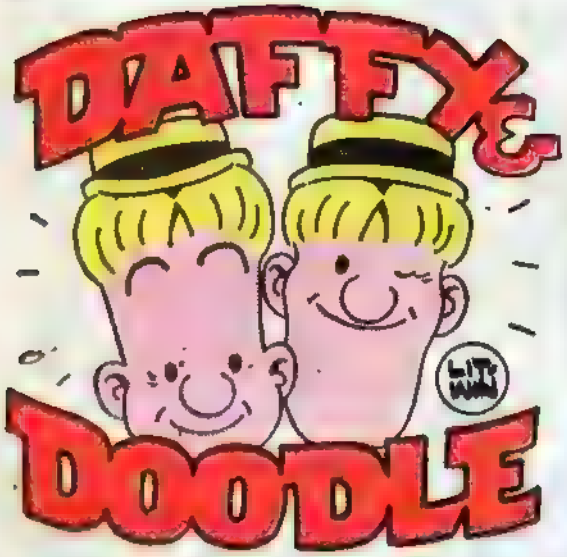
In addition to his outstanding work for Gov. Stanford, Muybridge also did important research for the University of Pennsylvania.

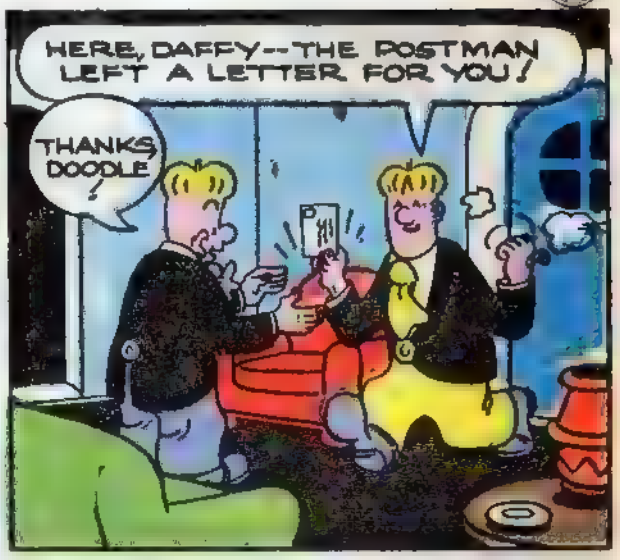
Not many men live to see their work as widely recognized and definitely hailed as Muybridge did, but before he died Muybridge had the satisfaction of knowing that his contributions to photography and the world were of tremendous importance. One tribute, given by a spectator at the Zoopraxigraphical Hall in Chicago, sums up Muybridge's contributions nicely.

He was, the spectator noted, the man who had photographed horse races so that they were "reproduced with such fidelity that the individual characteristics of the motion of every animal could readily be seen." And that, plus his work with men and other animals, was all the result of the bet that made history

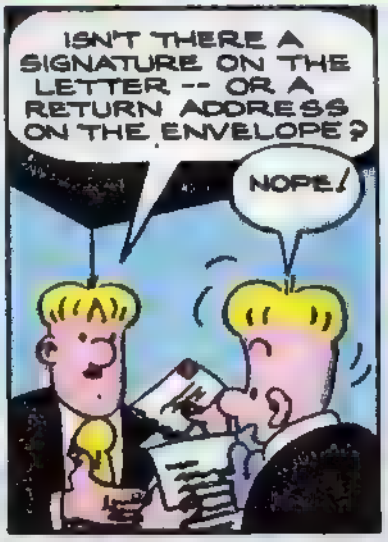
CASEY
THE COP
HENRY BOLTINOFF
HMM --
MY WIFE PUT THIS STRING ON MY FINGER TO REMIND ME TO DO SOMETHING VERY IMPORTANT!
I CAN'T FOR THE LIFE OF ME REMEMBER WHAT IT IS!
YEOW
I REMEMBER NOW! PUT ASHES ON OUR SLIPPERY WALK!
THE END

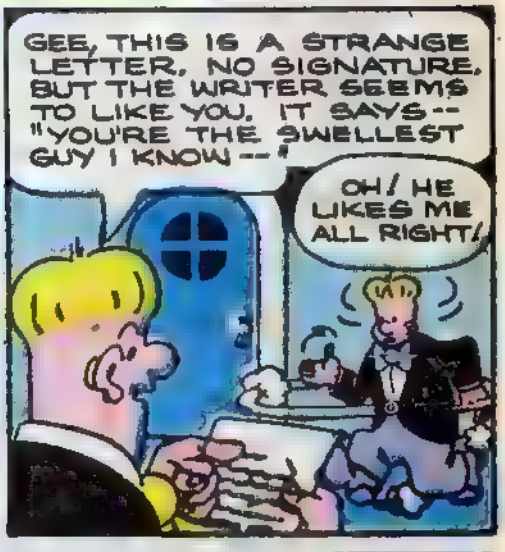

OUR BUNCH ALL MUNCH
NESTLE'S
CRUNCH
MILK CHOCOLATE
NESTLE'S CRUNCH
WON'T YOU JOIN US, TOO?
Delicious-Different
Lamont, Corliss & Co

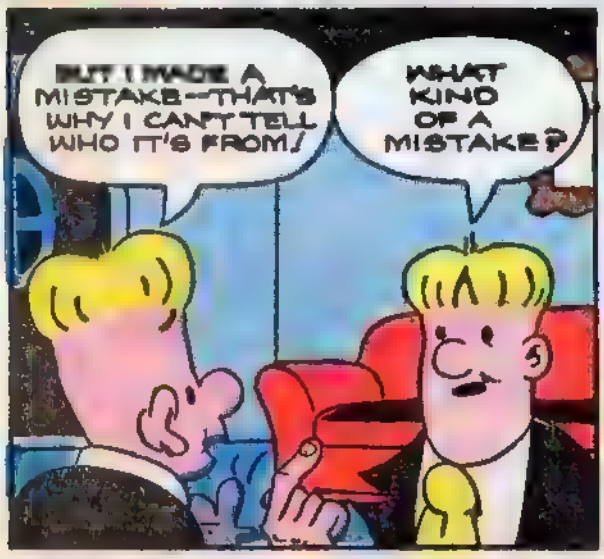

DAFFY & DOODLE

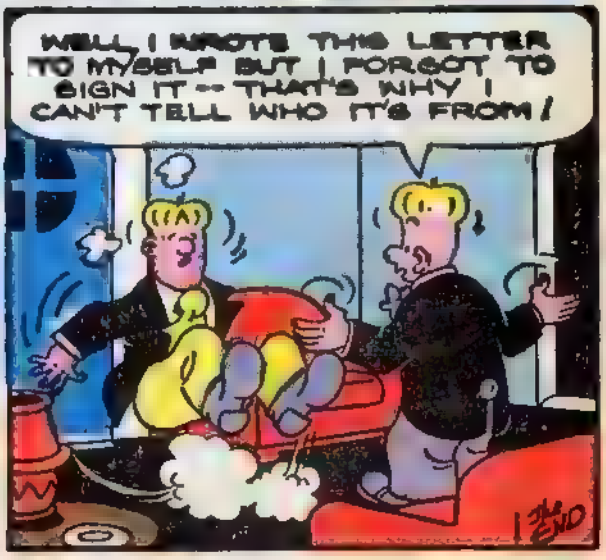

HERE, DAFFY--THE POSTMAN LEFT A LETTER FOR YOU!
THANKS, DOODLE!

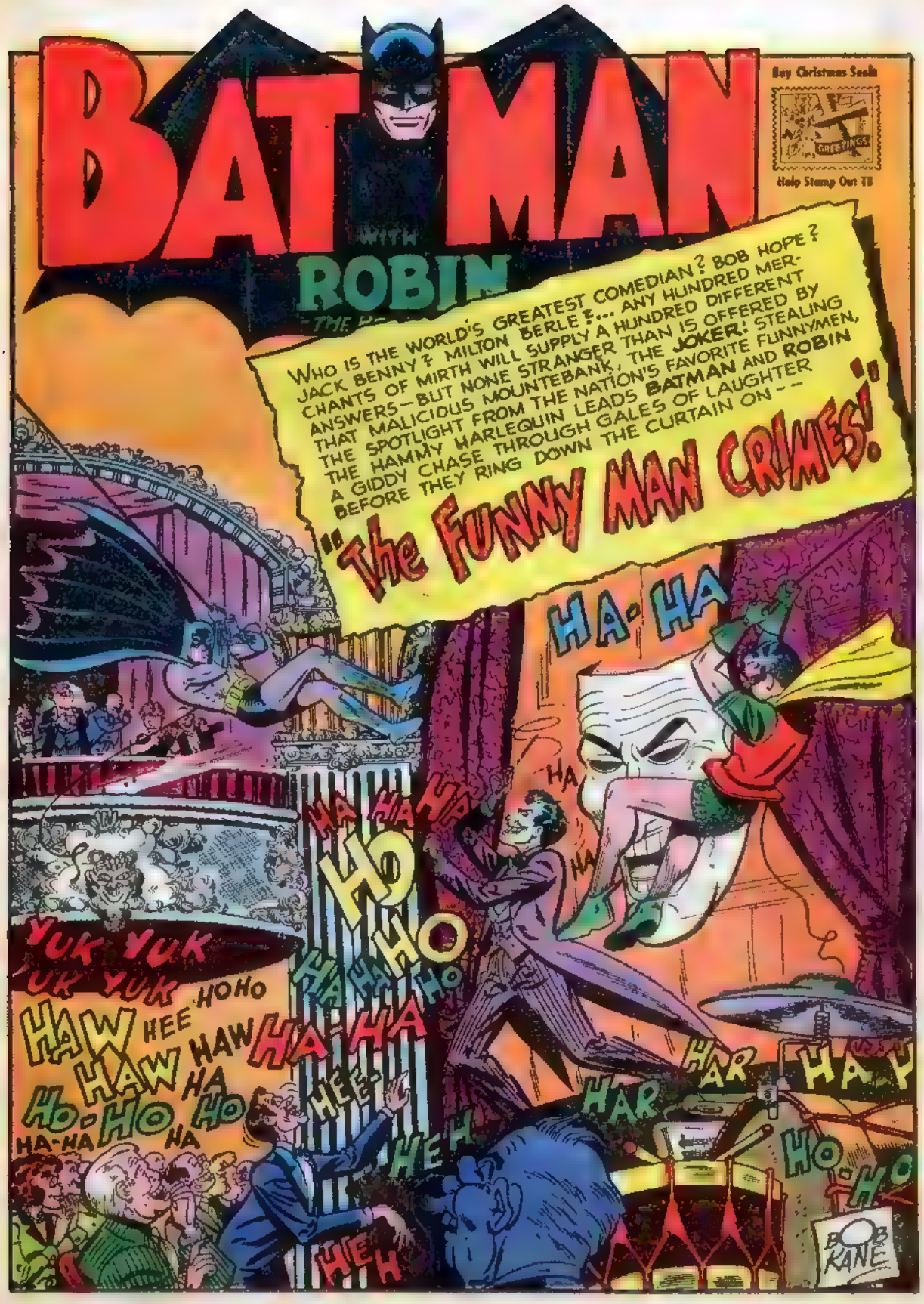
WHO'S THE LETTER FROM?
GEE, DOODLE, I DON'T KNOW!


ISN'T THERE A SIGNATURE ON THE LETTER -- OR A RETURN ADDRESS ON THE ENVELOPE?
NOPE!

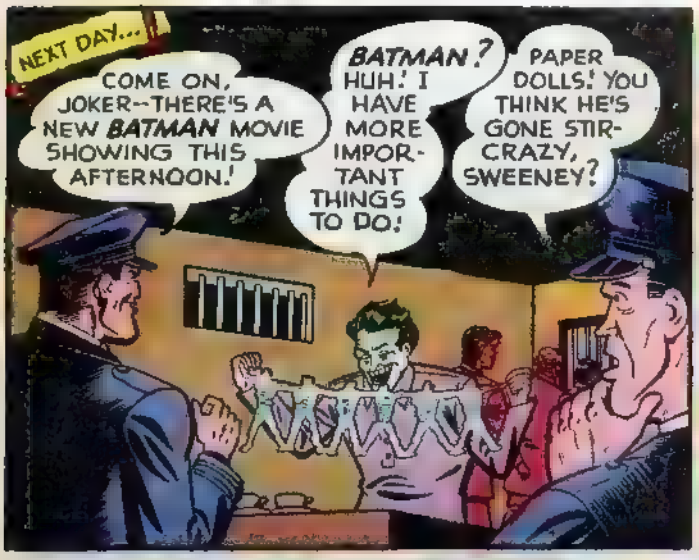

GEE, THIS IS A STRANGE LETTER. NO SIGNATURE. BUT THE WRITER SEEMS TO LIKE YOU. IT SAYS -- "YOU'RE THE SWELLEST GUY I KNOW --"
OH! HE LIKES ME ALL RIGHT!


BUT I MADE A MISTAKE--THAT'S WHY I CAN'T TELL WHO IT'S FROM!
WHAT KIND OF A MISTAKE?

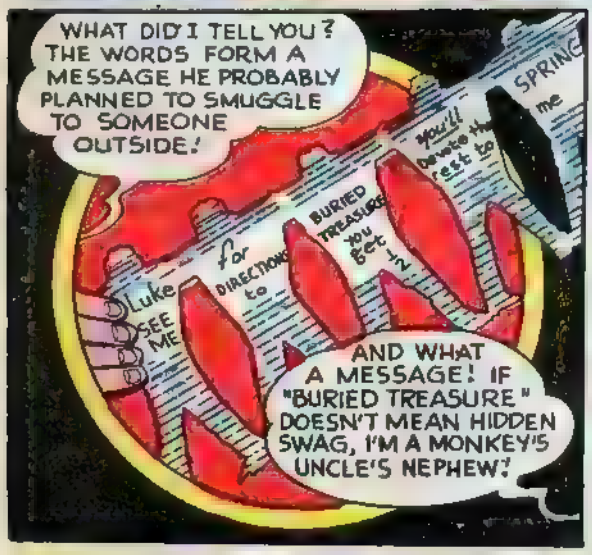

WELL, I WROTE THIS LETTER TO MYSELF BUT I FORGOT TO SIGN IT -- THAT'S WHY I CAN'T TELL WHO IT'S FROM!
THE END

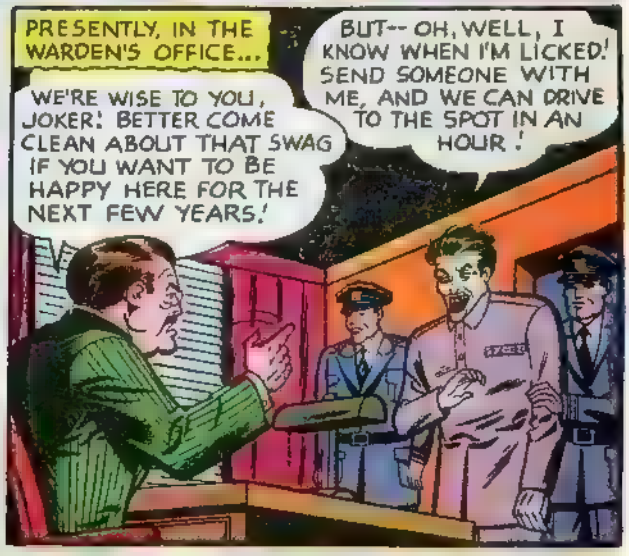

BATMAN
WITH
ROBIN
Buy Christmas Seals
GREETINGS
Help Stamp Out TB
WHO IS THE WORLD'S GREATEST COMEDIAN? BOB HOPE? JACK BENNY? MILTON BERLE?... ANY HUNDRED MERCHANTS OF MIRTH WILL SUPPLY A HUNDRED DIFFERENT ANSWERS—BUT NONE STRANGER THAN IS OFFERED BY THAT MALICIOUS MOUNTEBANK, THE JOKER! STEALING THE SPOTLIGHT FROM THE NATION'S FAVORITE FUNNYMEN, THE HAMMY HARLEQUIN LEADS BATMAN AND ROBIN A GIDDY CHASE THROUGH GALES OF LAUGHTER BEFORE THEY RING DOWN THE CURTAIN ON--
"The FUNNY MAN CRIMES!"
HA-HA
HA HA HA HO HO HO HO
HA HA HA
YUK YUK
UK YUK HOHO
HAW HEE HAW HAW HA HA HA HO HO HA-HA HA
HEE HEH
HEH
HAR HAR
HA-HA
HO-HO
BOB KANE

SCENE: GOTHAM PRISON... TIME: A MIDDAY RECREATION PERIOD... CRITIC: THE JOKER...
THAT MILTON BERLE IS SURE FUNNY, EH, JOKER?
BAH! HIS GAGS GAG ME!
I NEVER HAD ANY LUCK BORROWING FROM MIDGETS! THEY WERE ALWAYS SHORT!
HA!
HA! HA!
IN THE EVENING IT'S TELEVISION...
HO, HO, HO! AIN'T THEY A RIOT?
THEY SHOULD BE HERE IN PRISON—IN SOLITARY!
DID YOU FORGET THAT TEN BUCKS I LENT YOU, TOSCELLO?
NOT YET, BABBITT—BUT I'M STILL TRYING!
THAT DOG'S BARK IS WORSE THAN HIS BITE!
HA!
HO!
SO BABBITT AND TOSCELLO AIN'T FUNNY ENOUGH FOR YOU EITHER! DO YOU LIKE ANYBODY, JOKER?
THEN SHUSH HIM QUICK! HE ALREADY BIT ME!
YES, THE GREATEST COMEDIAN OF ALL—THE CALIPH OF CRIME CLOWNS, THE GRAND MOGUL OF MOUNTEBANKS, THE KING OF JESTERS—
HA!
—ME, THE ONE AND ONLY JOKER! HA, HA, HA!
YOU? PHOOEY! WHAT'S YOUR HOOPER RATING?
AW, SHADDUP!
MORONS! NOT ONE OF YOU KNOWS WHAT REAL TALENT IS! I'LL SHOW YOU HOW HIGH I RATE WHEN I GET OUT OF HERE!
YOU'LL HAVE LONG WHITE WHISKERS TO SHOW, TOO, AFTER WHAT THE JUDGE SAID WHEN BATMAN BROUGHT YOU IN!
I'LL SHOW 'EM SOONER THAN THEY THINK! I WAS ONLY WAITING FOR A SURE-FIRE COMIC CRIME PLAN, AND NOW THAT I'VE GOT IT, I'LL MAKE THE BREAK—AND BECOME THE COUNTRY'S MOST FAMOUS—AND RICHEST—COMEDIAN, AS WELL AS THE STAR PERFORMER OF THE UNDERWORLD!
2


NEXT DAY...
COME ON, JOKER--THERE'S A NEW BATMAN MOVIE SHOWING THIS AFTERNOON!
BATMAN? HUH! I HAVE MORE IMPORTANT THINGS TO DO!
PAPER DOLLS! YOU THINK HE'S GONE STIR-CRAZY, SWEENEY?

YEAH--CRAZY LIKE A FOX! THERE'S ALWAYS A METHOD IN THIS CHARACTER'S MADNESS! HERE, LET ME SEE THEM!
NO! GIVE THEM BACK! WHAT SORT OF PLACE IS THIS, WHERE A STEADY CUSTOMER CAN'T HAVE ANY PRIVACY AT ALL?


WHAT DID I TELL YOU? THE WORDS FORM A MESSAGE HE PROBABLY PLANNED TO SMUGGLE TO SOMEONE OUTSIDE!
SPRING
me
You'll
Luke
SEE ME
for
DIRECTIONS
to
BURIED TREASURE
you
get
AND WHAT A MESSAGE! IF "BURIED TREASURE" DOESN'T MEAN HIDDEN SWAG, I'M A MONKEY'S UNCLE'S NEPHEW!


PRESENTLY, IN THE WARDEN'S OFFICE...
WE'RE WISE TO YOU, JOKER! BETTER COME CLEAN ABOUT THAT SWAG IF YOU WANT TO BE HAPPY HERE FOR THE NEXT FEW YEARS!
BUT-- OH, WELL, I KNOW WHEN I'M LICKED! SEND SOMEONE WITH ME, AND WE CAN DRIVE TO THE SPOT IN AN HOUR!

IN THE COUNTRYSIDE BEYOND THE GOTHAM CITY LIMITS...
IT'S THREE OR FOUR FEET DOWN!
IF YOU'D TOLD ABOUT IT WHEN BATMAN ARRESTED YOU, THE COURT MIGHT HAVE KNOCKED A YEAR OFF YOUR SENTENCE!

I'M ALL IN! ONE OF YOU WILL HAVE TO PULL IT UP!
I'LL TRY IT!

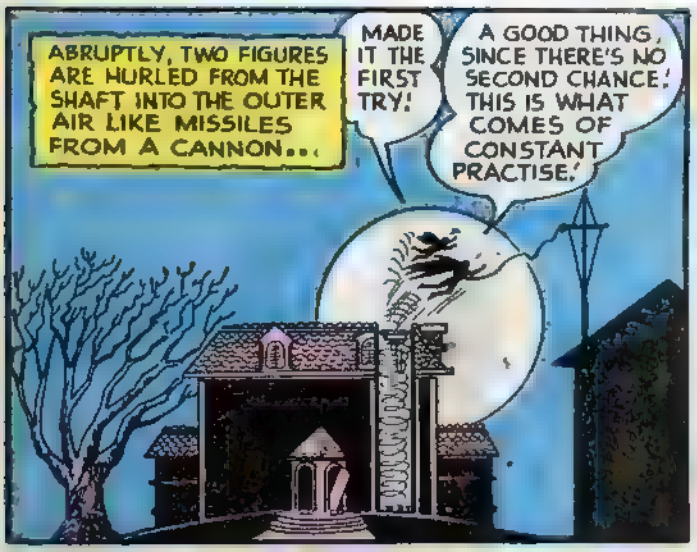
SUDDENLY...
AN EXPLOSIVE MINE! IT WAS ALL A JOKER TRICK!
YOU CAN SAY THAT AGAIN! HA, HA, HA! I PLANTED THAT DYNAMITE HERE A YEAR AGO FOR JUST SUCH AN EMERGENCY!
WHAT-?
BOOM!!!
AS YOU SAID, SWEENEY, THERE'S ALWAYS METHOD IN MY MADNESS-- BUT NEVER THE OBVIOUS METHOD YOU SUSPECT! I KNEW YOU'D SPOT THE MESSAGE ON THOSE PAPER DOLLS AND REACT AS YOU DID! TA-TA--AND HO, HO, HO, HO!
YOU CAN'T GET AWAY WITH THIS!
BUT THE HILARIOUS HARLEQUIN ALREADY IS SAFE IN HIS BIZARRE RETREAT, PLOTTING MEANS OF COMBINING BUSINESS WITH PLEASURE.
PROMPTLY THE FORCES OF THE LAW ARE ALERTED IN SCORES OF POLICE STATIONS--AND IN THE HOME OF BRUCE WAYNE AND HIS YOUNG WARD DICK GRAYSON!
COME ON, DICK! BATMAN AND ROBIN WILL HAVE TO BE ON THE JOB AS LONG AS THAT GIGGLING GOON REMAINS AT LARGE!
..THE JOKER WAS SEEN DRIVING THE WARDEN'S CAR AT HIGH SPEED TOWARD GOTHAM CITY...
HOME AGAIN--AS HANDSOME AS EVER, AND SPOILING FOR THE SPOTLIGHT! NOW--HA, HA, HA!--TO PROVE MYSELF THE WORLD'S GREATEST COMEDIAN--AND AT THE SAME TIME REFILL MY TREASURY ROOMS!
CHUCKLING, HE SURVEYS HIS JEWEL ROOM...
PLENTY OF SPACE FOR A FEW MORE TRINKETS!
A MAN CAN'T HAVE TOO MUCH GOLD LYING AROUND!
HIS GOLD ROOM...
HIS PLATINUM ROOM...
I NEVER DID HAVE ENOUGH PLATINUM TO SATISFY ME!
I'LL FILL THEM ALL TILL THEY BULGE AT THE SEAMS! HA, HA, HA!
HIS MONEY ROOM...

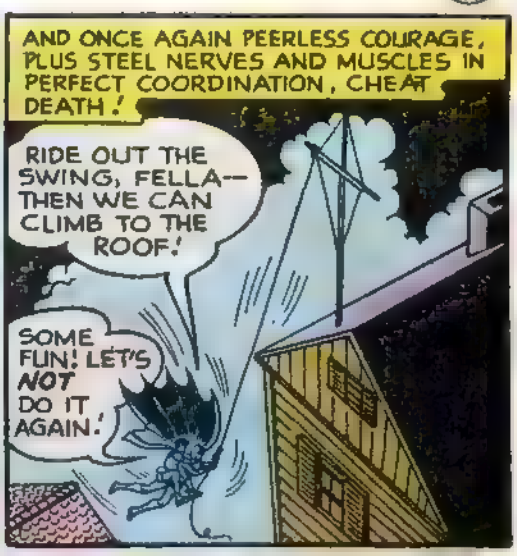
TWO NIGHTS LATER, THE "GEMS OF COMEDY" RADIO SHOW, STARRING BOB MOPE, HAS ITS WEEKLY AIRING...
NOW FOR THE DOLLAR-BILL FAN SHOWER, BEFORE WE AWARD JEWELRY PRIZES TO THE FUNNIEST PEOPLE HERE--NEXT TO ME! NOTE THE PORTRAITS ON THE BILLS OF GEORGE WASHINGTON, AMERICA'S MOST HONEST MAN--NEXT TO ME.'
COMIC GEM CHEST
THIS TIME, HOWEVER, SOMETHING NEW HAS BEEN ADDED!
SOMETHING'S GONE WRONG! LOOKS AS IF I'M REALLY GOING TO NEED A SENSE OF HUMOR!'
HAVING GRABBED THE CASH, I'LL HELP MYSELF TO THE PRIZES!'
PICTURES OF THE JOKER! HAW, HAW, HAW!'
AN HONEST MAN,' THAT'S RICH.'
SNEEZE POWDER! YOU'VE RUINED ME!'
AH-CHOO!
JOKER! YOU'RE NOT ON THIS PROGRAM!'
THAT'S WHAT YOU THINK! HA, HA, HA! AS THE FUNNIEST PERSON HERE--NOT EXCEPTING YOU-- I'VE COME TO TRADE IN THESE JEWELS FOR YOUR PRIZES!' DON'T SNEEZE AT THEM.'
HE LOOKS ALMOST LIKE THE REAL JOKER, TOO.' HA! HA.'
ON THE CONTRARY, THIS WILL BE REMEMBERED AS YOUR MOST SENSATIONAL PERFORMANCE -- PLAYING SECOND FIDDLE TO ME! HO, HO.'
MEANWHILE, THE BATMOBILE'S RADIO HAS CAUGHT THE START OF THE SHOW, CAUSING TWO CAPED FIGURES TO SPEED TO THE SCENE.'
MIND IF WE JOIN THE FUN, JOKER?
BATMAN AND ROBIN.' NOW I'M SURE TO BE THE MOST TALKED ABOUT PERFORMER ON THE AIR TONIGHT.' WELCOME, FELLOW CLOWNS.'
YOU'LL DO YOUR CLOWNING IN THE BIG HOUSE FROM NOW ON.'
WHAT A SENSE OF HUMOR! YOU'LL AGREE MINE IS BETTER WHEN I OPEN THIS DOOR!
5

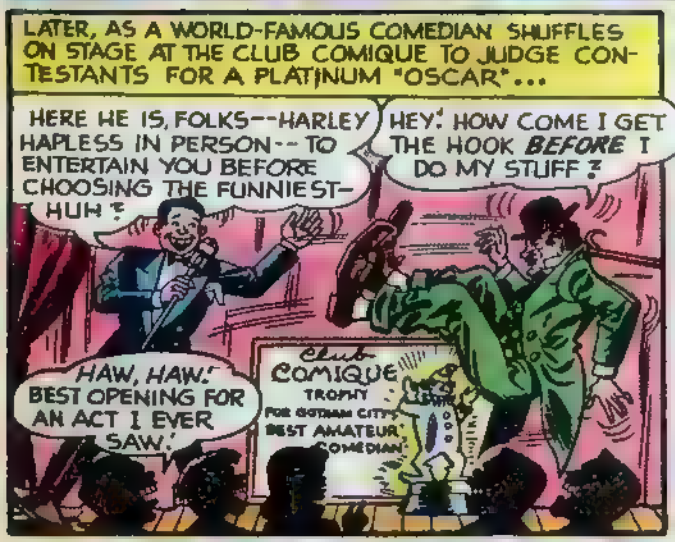
MEET MY JOKER-IN-THE BOX! HO, HO, HO! SINCE WE'RE ONLY 35 STORIES HIGH, I MIGHT AS WELL TAKE MY GEMS—INCLUDING MY GEMS OF WIT—OUT THIS WAY!
OOOFF!
HA HA HO HA HO HA HA HO HA HA HO HA HA HO HA HA HO HA HA HO HA
NOR IS THE JOKER DISAPPOINTED IN HIS PRESS NOTICES...
JOKER "STEALS" COMIC SHOW
AUDIENCE ROARS, SNEEZES
HOOPER BATING, PROBING HIS OTHER ENTERTAINER GOT SUCH RAVE NOTICES! THERE'S GOLD AND GLORY IN THOSE GAGS—AND I'M READY FOR BIGGER AND BETTER ONES
ANOTHER NIGHT, AS THE "WIN YOUR WEIGHT IN GOLD" TELEVISION HOUR FEATURES TEDDY BANTER AND HIS BEAUTIFUL BELLES...
WADDLE RIGHT UP, FAT FOLKS! THE GUEST WITH THE GREATEST GIRTH WINS HIS WEIGHT IN SOLID GOLD PRIZES, PLUS A CARLOAD OF REDUCING COMPOUND!
GET SLIM with GOLDEN GLOW Reducing Tablets
LICK
NOBODY CAN POSSIBLY BE FATTER THAN THIS! HA, HA, HA!
HUH—? I'M GETTING NEW GLASSES QUICK!
HOW DOES HE GET THROUGH DOORS?
BET HE WEIGHS A TON!
HAW HAW
TWO NEW PAIRS OF GLASSES I'M GETTING! ONLY 168 POUNDS, IT SAYS HERE—BUT THAT'S NOT HALF THE STORY
HERE'S THE OTHER HALF, LITTLE MAN! WATCH!
6

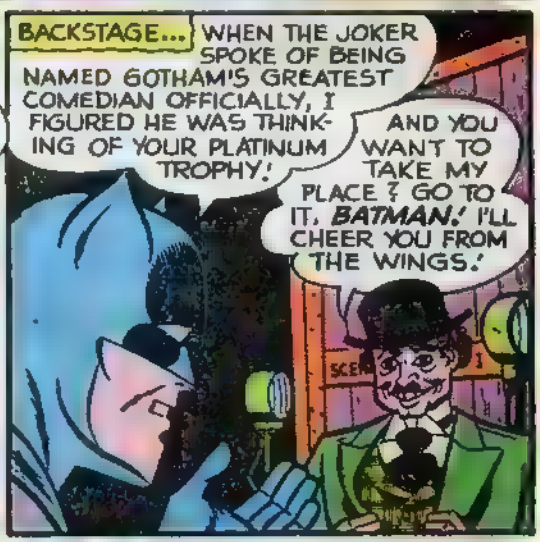
SEE! LAUGHING GAS INSIDE THIS RUBBER SUIT MAKES ME FAT! HA, HA! I DON'T NEED YOUR GOLDEN GLOW COMPOUND TO REDUCE.
A BLOWN-UP CUSTOMER! HO, HO!
HA HA HO TEEHEE
HA HA HA Ho Ho
GRIMLY THE DYNAMIC DUO SWINGS INTO ACTION--ONLY TO SUCCUMB WITHOUT A STRUGGLE TO HYSTERICAL HILARITY!
YOU'RE NOT FUNNY--EH?... AHH-H-HA, HA, HA!
HO HA HO
HA
HIGH ABOVE THE STAGE...
HA Ho HA
WHAT ARE THEY LAUGHING AT? LET'S GO, FELLA!
HA, HA! I CAN'T--HA, HA-HELP IT!
LAUGH, CLOWNS!
FORMER PRISON PALS OF THE JOKER HAVE CAUSE TO REMEMBER HIS LAST APPEARANCE AMONG THEM...
CONSIDER YOURSELVES IN THE BAG AND READY TO TRAVEL!
THE JOKER SAID HE'D SHOW US, AN' DOGGONED IF HE AIN'T! ALL ON ACCOUNT O' THAT CRACK ABOUT HIS HOOPER RATING!
HA HA Ho Ho
NEXT MOMENT...
HO HO
HA HA HA HA HA Ho Ho
HA
Ho HA Ho
WHEEEEEEEEEEE
HO HO HA Ho
ONE OF SEVERAL HIDEOUTS I HAVE, BATMAN--THE SHELL OF AN ABANDONED BUILDING, CONVERTED TO A HANGAR, TO WHICH THE BALLOON IS DRAWN BY MAGNETISM! CLEVER, EH?
SORRY I CAN'T COMPLIMENT YOU TILL I GET MY BREATH BACK!
SOON, THE CAPED HEROES, LAUGHING NO LONGER, ARE BOUND AT THE FOOT OF AN OLD ELEVATOR SHAFT...
NOW, BATMAN, I CAN REALIZE MY FONDEST DREAM! I'LL UNMASK YOU, AND TELL THE WHOLE WORLD YOUR REAL IDENTITY! HA, HA, HA, HA, HA!
I CAN'T STOP YOU--BUT I'LL SEE THAT YOU REGRET IT LATER!

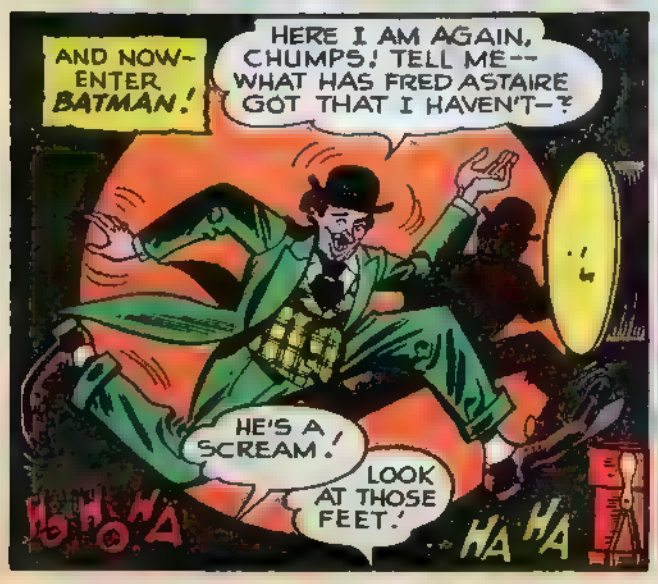
IS THE VITAL SECRET OF BATMAN'S REAL SELF, ON WHICH HIS USEFULNESS AND HIS VERY LIFE DEPEND, TO BE REVEALED AT LAST BY A JEERING JACKANAPES?
UNDERWORLD KILLERS WILL HUNT YOU DAY AND NIGHT! YOUR FRIENDS WILL NEVER BE SAFE! YOU'LL BE A LIABILITY INSTEAD OF A HELP TO THE LAW.'
AT LEAST I WON'T HAVE TO CHASE YOU ANY MORE.'
THE JOKER HESITATES...
HMM... I NEVER THOUGHT OF THAT.' I'D MISS OUR DUELS OF WITS—AND I NEVER COULD PROVE HOW MUCH SMARTER I AM THAN YOU.'
AS IF YOU COULD PROVE THAT, ANYWAY!
WHEW—THAT WAS TOO CLOSE FOR COMFORT!
I'LL DECIDE LATER, AFTER I'M OFFICIALLY NAMED GOTHAM'S GREATEST COMEDIAN, WITH A TROPHY TO PROVE IT! DON'T TRY TO ESCAPE MEANWHILE, UNLESS YOU'RE TIRED OF LIVING.'
YOU COULD GET FREE FROM THESE ROPES EASILY—BUT DOING SO, YOU'D RELEASE A POWERFUL SPRING THAT WOULD CATAPULT YOU HIGH INTO THE AIR, TO BE SMASHED TO BITS WHEN YOU LANDED! INGENIOUS, EH?
YES, INDEED—VERY FUNNY!
AS THE CRIME-SMASHING PAIR IS LEFT ALONE...
I DON'T THINK HE WAS FOOLING ABOUT THE SPRING, ROBIN! BUT THAT DOESN'T MEAN WE CAN'T MAKE A TRY FOR FREEDOM IF WE WORK FAST—AND IF YOU'RE GAME!
YOU KNOW I'M GAME! WHAT'S THE PROGRAM?
THERE ARE RADIO AERIAL MASTS ON THE BUILDING NEXT DOOR! I'LL GRAB MY SILKEN ROPE THE SECOND OUR HANDS ARE FREE, AND—
I GET IT! AND MY HANDS ARE ALMOST FREE ALREADY!


ABRUPTLY, TWO FIGURES ARE HURLED FROM THE SHAFT INTO THE OUTER AIR LIKE MISSILES FROM A CANNON...
MADE IT THE FIRST TRY!
A GOOD THING, SINCE THERE'S NO SECOND CHANCE! THIS IS WHAT COMES OF CONSTANT PRACTISE!


AND ONCE AGAIN PEERLESS COURAGE, PLUS STEEL NERVES AND MUSCLES IN PERFECT COORDINATION, CHEAT DEATH!
RIDE OUT THE SWING, FELLA--THEN WE CAN CLIMB TO THE ROOF!
SOME FUN! LET'S NOT DO IT AGAIN!


LATER, AS A WORLD-FAMOUS COMEDIAN SHUFFLES ON STAGE AT THE CLUB COMIQUE TO JUDGE CONTESTANTS FOR A PLATINUM "OSCAR"...
HERE HE IS, FOLKS--HARLEY HAPLESS IN PERSON--TO ENTERTAIN YOU BEFORE CHOOSING THE FUNNIEST--HUH?
HEY! HOW COME I GET THE HOOK BEFORE I DO MY STUFF?
HAW, HAW! BEST OPENING FOR AN ACT I EVER SAW!
Club COMIQUE TROPHY FOR GOTHAM CITY'S BEST AMATEUR COMEDIAN

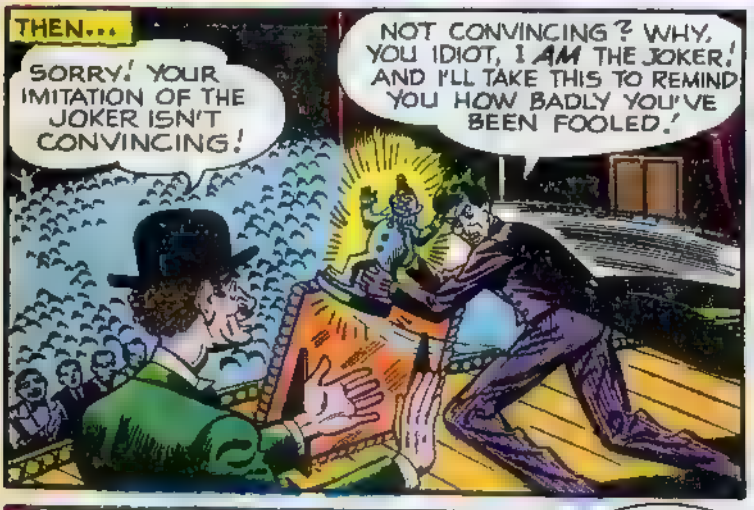

BACKSTAGE... WHEN THE JOKER SPOKE OF BEING NAMED GOTHAM'S GREATEST COMEDIAN OFFICIALLY, I FIGURED HE WAS THINKING OF YOUR PLATINUM TROPHY!
AND YOU WANT TO TAKE MY PLACE? GO TO IT, BATMAN! I'LL CHEER YOU FROM THE WINGS!

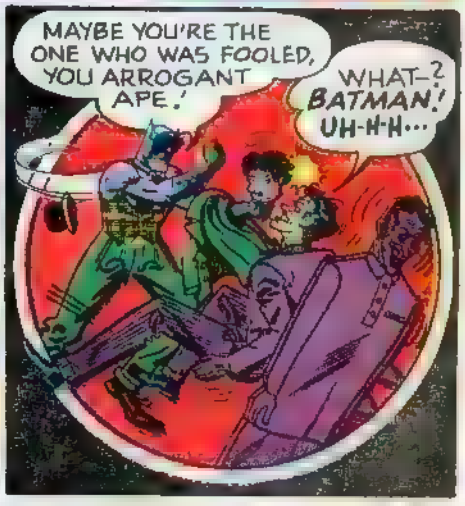

AND NOW--ENTER BATMAN!
HERE I AM AGAIN, CHUMPS! TELL ME--WHAT HAS FRED ASTAIRE GOT THAT I HAVEN'T--?
HE'S A SCREAM!
LOOK AT THOSE FEET!
HA HA
HA HA

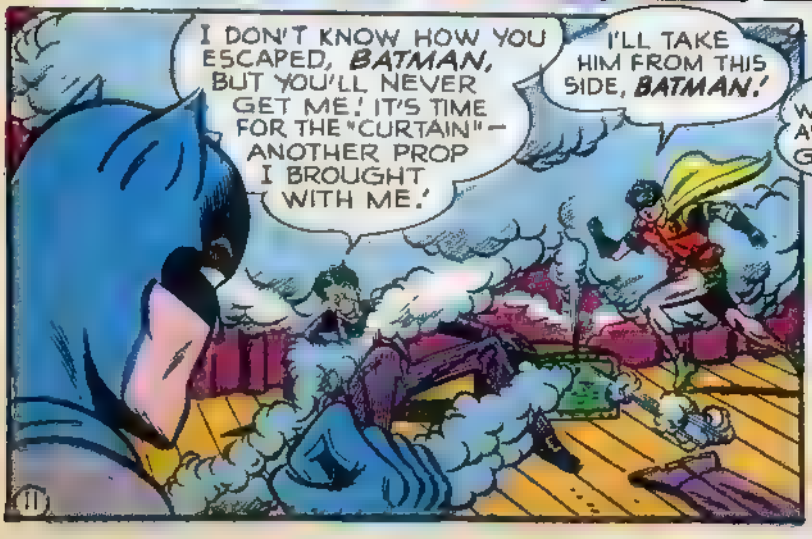
FUNNIEST THING I EVER SAW!
--GOT? WHOOPS!
HAW! HAW! HAW!

GRACEFUL, HUH? OKAY, HAMS--LET'S SEE WHICH OF YOU IS FUNNY ENOUGH TO MAKE ME LAUGH, THE WAY I FEEL NOW!
I DID MY JUGGLING ACT IN A COLLEGE PLAY!
WILLIE AND I WANT TO GET IN THE MOVIES!
AND I, SIR, DO A SIDE-SPLITTING IMITATION OF THE JOKER!
A DIFFICULT CHARACTER TO IMPERSONATE, MY FOOLHARDY FRIEND--BUT YOU MAY TRY!
PROPS AND ALL, EH? STILL I'M AFRAID YOU'RE WASTING YOUR TIME! NOBODY COULD BE AS WHACKY AS THE JOKER!
NO? JUST WAIT HALF A SECOND, TILL I FIX MY MAKEUP!
HA-HA-HA-HA! WHAT CAN LITTLE SHAVERS LIKE THAT DO?
HE WANTS TO KNOW WHAT WE CAN DO, ROBIN!
LET'S NOT KEEP HIM IN SUSPENSE!
HALT, YOU HILARIOUS HYENA!
STOP, YOU GIGGLING GOAT!
YOU DUMMIES WILL HAVE TO STOP CALLING ME NAMES WHEN I RUN OUT OF BREATH!
HA HA
HO HO
HE'S GOOD!
LISTEN TO THEM CHEER, HAPLESS! DO I GET THE TROPHY?
AS A VENTRILOQUIST YOU'RE FAIR, BUT YOUR IMITATION OF THE JOKER IS POOR! YOU'LL HAVE TO DO BETTER!
HA HA HA
HO HO HO
MORE
HO HO HO

BETTER, EH? WATCH!... IN ALL THE WORLD THERE IS NO GREATER CRIMINAL GENIUS THAN I--THE ONE AND ONLY JOKER!
HA
HO HO HO HA HA
HOW'S THIS?... I'LL LAUGH BATMAN AND ROBIN RIGHT OFF THE MAP! HA, HA, HA, HA, HA, HA!
HO HO HO HA HA HA HA HA HO HA HEH HEH
STUNG BY THE CRITICISM, THE CRIME CLOWN POURS ALL HIS ENERGY INTO DRAMATIC CHANNELS!


THEN...
SORRY! YOUR IMITATION OF THE JOKER ISN'T CONVINCING!
NOT CONVINCING? WHY, YOU IDIOT, I AM THE JOKER! AND I'LL TAKE THIS TO REMIND YOU HOW BADLY YOU'VE BEEN FOOLED!


MAYBE YOU'RE THE ONE WHO WAS FOOLED, YOU ARROGANT APE!
WHAT--? BATMAN! UH-H-H...


I DON'T KNOW HOW YOU ESCAPED, BATMAN, BUT YOU'LL NEVER GET ME! IT'S TIME FOR THE "CURTAIN"--ANOTHER PROP I BROUGHT WITH ME!
I'LL TAKE HIM FROM THIS SIDE, BATMAN!

BUT WHEN THE SMOKE HAS CLEARED...
HUH-? WE WERE FIGHTING EACH OTHER--AND THE JOKER GOT AWAY!
WITH THE TROPHY, TOO--AND SOMETHING ELSE THAT MAY HELP US FIND HIM! LET'S GO!

OUTSIDE THE CLUB COMIQUE, THE PATH OF THE JOKER'S FLIGHT HAS BECOME A LANE OF LAUGHTER!
HO, HO, HO! HE WENT THAT WAY, BATMAN!
FUNNIEST THING I EVER SAW! HA, HA!
Club COMIQUE
JUST AS I THOUGHT!
TRY AS HE WILL, THE MOCKING MOUNTEBANK--WHO FOR ONCE WOULD GLADLY DO WITHOUT THE MAD MIRTH THAT HAS BECOME HIS TRADEMARK--CANNOT OUTDISTANCE IT!
EVEN THE HORSE IS LAUGHING! WHAT'S FUNNY ABOUT ME, ANYWAY?
HA-HO!
NEIGH EH-EH-EH
WASN'T HE COMICAL, GEORGE! TEE-HEE!
EH-EH
AS THE LAUGH-TRAIL NEARS ITS END...
THERE HE GOES! THAT MUST BE HIS MAIN HIDEOUT!
FAIR ENOUGH--BUT I STILL DON'T UNDERSTAND IT!
I DON'T KNOW HOW YOU MANAGED THIS, BATMAN--BUT IT WON'T DO YOU ANY GOOD!
LOW BRIDGE, ROBIN!
LOW COMEDY, TOO!
KNOCKED OUT BY THE CLOWN TROPHY--AFTER BEING SPOTTED BY THE CUTOUT I PINNED ON HIM BACK THERE! THAT'S WHY EVERYBODY NOTICED HIM AND LAUGHED!
HE WAS PRACTICALLY CHASING HIMSELF, AND DIDN'T KNOW IT! THIS IS THE BEST JOKE YET--BUT I DOUBT IF HE'LL APPRECIATE IT!
AND SO, ANOTHER DAY...
HAW, HAW! THAT JACK BENNY IS A CARD!
WHAT IF FOLKS ARE SLOW TO LAUGH AT MY GAGS, MARY? HE WHO LAUGHS LAST, LAUGHS BEST--LIKE BATMAN WHEN HE CHUCKLED THE JOKER BACK IN THE HOOSEGOW!
BAH!
THE END

BATMAN AND ROBIN stand up for SPORTSMANSHIP!

EVER ON THE ALERT FOR SIGNS OF CRIME, **BATMAN** AND **ROBIN**, FAMED FIGHTERS FOR JUSTICE, SPOT A NEW AND DANGEROUS MENACE!

LOOK, **ROBIN**, SOME REAL TROUBLE ON THAT FOOTBALL FIELD--AND IT NEEDS OUR ATTENTION!

CHECK, **BATMAN**!

GOSH, IT'S **BATMAN** AND **ROBIN**!

HOLD ON, WHAT'S GOING ON HERE?

AW, WE DON'T WANT THIS GUY AROUND HERE. HE DON'T BELONG! HE AIN'T A REAL AMERICAN!

SPEAK FOR YOURSELF, DAN!

A LOT OF US DON'T AGREE WITH YOU! HANK'S A GOOD PLAYER--AND HE BELONGS ON THE TEAM SAME AS ANYBODY ELSE!

RIGHT! IT'S THE ONE WHO THINKS OTHERWISE WHO'S NOT THE REAL AMERICAN! HE'S HARMING HIS COUNTRY WHEN HE SPEAKS AND ACTS THAT WAY!

DON'T BELIEVE THOSE CRACKPOT LIES ABOUT PEOPLE WHO WORSHIP DIFFERENTLY, OR WHOSE SKIN IS OF A DIFFERENT COLOR, OR WHOSE PARENTS COME FROM ANOTHER COUNTRY. REMEMBER OUR AMERICAN HERITAGE OF FREEDOM AND EQUALITY!

DON'T WEAKEN OUR COUNTRY! A NATION DIVIDED BY PREJUDICE IS LIKE A FOOTBALL TEAM WITHOUT TEAMWORK! SO GET TOGETHER... WORK AND PLAY IN HARMONY--AND YOU'LL HAVE A SUCCESSFUL TEAM!

THANKS, **BATMAN**, WE WILL!

SUPERMAN • DC • NATIONAL COMICS

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YOU'RE FUNNIER WITH YOUR OWN
THE MYSTERY MONKEY MAN SURE HAS THE GIRLS ALL AGOG
WHO IS HE AND WHERE DID HE GET THAT MASK?

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☐ Mickey Mouse
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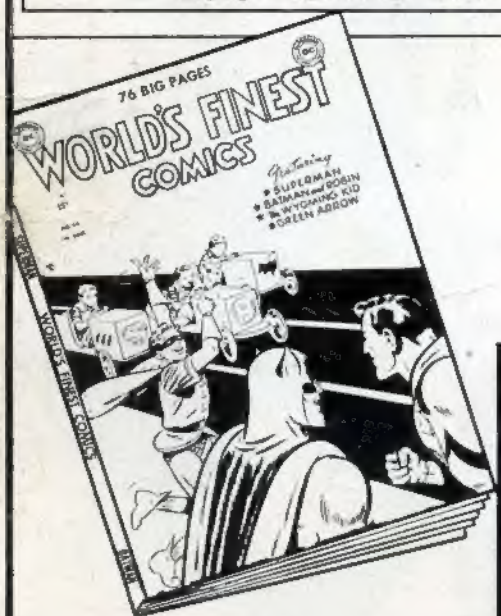

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